

**THE UNIVERSITY OF ZAMBIA**

**EXPLORING AND INVESTIGATING CORRUPTION IN THE UPND  
GOVERNMENT IN LUSAKA DISTRICT**

**By**

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## **DEDICATION**

This research is dedicated to my parents and my child for the academic, spiritual and moral support rendered to me during my entire study.

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## ACRONYMS

|   |    |
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| ACC: Anti-Corruption Commission.....  | 12 |
| AUPCC: African Union Convention on Preventing and Combating Corruption..... | 9  |
| BPP: Bureau of Public Procurement.....                                      | 10 |
| CPI: Corruption Perception Index .....                                      | 8  |
| DEC: Drug Enforcement Commission .....                                      | 19 |
| DPP: Director of Public Prosecution .....                                   | 9  |
| EFCC: Economic and Financial Crimes Commission (EFCC).....                  | 9  |
| FDI: Foreign Direct Investment.....   | 7  |
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| IPPIS: Integrated Payroll and Personnel Information System.....             | 10 |
| NACP: National Anti-Corruption Policy.....                                  | 8  |
| NGOs: Non-Governmental Organizations.....                                   | 19 |
| NOA: National Orientation Agency .....                                      | 11 |
| SDGs: Sustainable Development Goals.....                                    | 15 |
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## ABSTRACT

This study aimed to exploring corruption in the UPND New Dawn Government in Lusaka District, Zambia. The study used a sample of 100 respondents who were selected using purposive sampling technique. The research design combined both qualitative and quantitative methods, involving content analysis for qualitative data and simple statistical quantification to present quantitative data. Nevertheless, the bulk part of this research method was anchored on qualitative methods. Quantitative technique was used to justify the extent of UPND’S corruption since other methods have proven inconsistent towards fighting political corruption. The study's findings uncovered an increase in the presence of corruption by the UPND New Dawn Government, despite being a government that had promised to fight corruption in a transparency and accountable manner. This study explored, investigated and identified various factors that facilitate corruption such as: political patronage, poverty, inequality, weak institutions, ineffective anti-corruption measures, and a culture of impunity among public officials. Key informants also emphasized the lack of transparency and weak oversight institutions as factors contributing to corruption. These findings resonated with Treisman's (2000) research, which identified the role of social and economic heterogeneity, specifically ethnic fractionalization, facilitating the increase in corruption. The study highlighted the complex dynamics at play in the context of political patronage, poverty, and the ineffectiveness of anti-corruption measures. While public perception indicated a significant level of corruption in the UPND government, key informants suggested that stringent anti-corruption measures had resulted in lower levels of corruption. These measures included a clear legal framework to combat corruption, whistleblower protection, enhanced oversight, and independent anti-corruption agencies. Challenges in the fight against corruption included a lack of funding and resources, political interference, whistleblower vulnerability, and limited education and awareness. These challenges were in line with the findings of Maiga (2023), highlighting the negative impact of corruption on human capital development. The socio-economic and cultural effects of corruption were also examined. Economic drain, poverty, income inequality, and inefficient resource allocation were identified as socio-economic consequences. Culturally, corruption led to the normalization of unethical behavior, erosion of trust, and an impact on social cohesion. These findings underline

the far-reaching effects of corruption on society and underscore the importance of addressing this issue comprehensively.

Macre's Game theory was applied for determining different strategies in perpetuating corruption by the UPND government in Lusaka. It was used for offering valuable tools for solving strategy problem of how corruption can be reduced. The game theory was used to determine the level of accomplices for corruption crime, where there is not enough evidence for a felony conviction. The argument was that perpetrators of political corruption take the actions simply as a game and not a felony, hence its increase by the actors in the UPND government.

Methodologically, the study used a mixed research technique, even though the larger part of it was explorative approach thus involving interviews, focused group discussions, storytelling and observations.

In conclusion, the study revealed that while there are measures in place to combat corruption in the UPND New Dawn Government, challenges persist. Addressing these challenges and promoting a culture of transparency and accountability is essential. Corruption not only undermines economic development but also erodes cultural values and social cohesion. It is recommended that efforts to combat corruption include strengthening oversight institutions, promoting ethical leadership, and simplifying legal processes. Public awareness campaigns and measures to reduce poverty and inequality should be prioritized.

## CHAPTER ONE: INTRODUCTION

Corruption represents a significant impediment to the development of any society, adversely affecting economic efficiency, business operations, and citizens' access to essential services. It perpetuates poverty and undermines overall development efforts. In Zambia, despite the presence of anti-corruption watchdogs and legislative measures aimed at curbing corruption, the problem persists, with the public sector bearing the brunt of its impact (Noyoo, 2008). The term "corruption" encompasses a range of illicit activities, including bribery, embezzlement, money laundering, and favoritism, as understood in the local context, termed "Nichekeleko" (Phiri, 2017).

The post-independence era in Zambia, characterized by authoritarian rule and a state-controlled economy, saw widespread corruption, notably during President Chiluba's regime (Bertelsmann Foundation, 2014). However, subsequent administrations have made efforts to address corruption. President Levy Mwanawasa, in particular, prioritized anti-corruption initiatives during his tenure, which included the establishment of a Task Force on Corruption and the implementation of a corruption prevention strategy (Ryder, 2011).

Following Mwanawasa's presidency, subsequent administrations have had mixed records in combating corruption. President Rupiah Banda's tenure saw challenges, including the acquittal of former President Chiluba for embezzlement charges and the disbandment of anti-corruption task forces (Freedom House, 2013; NORAD, 2011).

The 2011 election marked a significant turning point in Zambian politics with the ascension of Michael Sata to power, who campaigned on a platform of promising sweeping reforms to tackle corruption and bolster transparency in governance. However, despite these promises, his presidency was marred by persistent corruption scandals that eroded public trust and confidence in the government's ability to effectively address graft (Phiri, 2017).

One notable example of corruption during Sata's administration was the highly controversial purchase of firetrucks at exorbitant prices, which drew widespread public outrage and scrutiny. The procurement process for these firetrucks raised serious questions about transparency,

accountability, and the prudent use of public funds (Freedom House, 2013). Reports revealed that the government had purchased firetrucks at a significantly inflated price, far exceeding their market value. This scandal not only highlighted the systemic flaws within the public procurement system but also underscored the extent to which corruption had permeated key sectors of governance under Sata's leadership (NORAD, 2011).

Despite calls for accountability and investigations into the matter, the lack of transparency and accountability surrounding the firetruck procurement scandal epitomized the challenges facing Zambia in its fight against corruption. It served as a stark reminder of the need for robust anti-corruption measures and institutional reforms to address the root causes of corruption and restore public confidence in the integrity of government institutions. The persistence of corruption scandals during Sata's presidency, despite his promises of reform, underscored the entrenched nature of corruption within Zambia's political landscape and the formidable challenges ahead in combating this pervasive problem (Phiri, 2017).

The recent transition of power to the United Party for National Development (UPND) government in 2021 was met with expectations of renewed efforts to combat corruption. However, reports of corruption have emerged within the UPND government, including allegations of irregularities in procurement processes (The Mast, 2022). Against this backdrop, this research aimed to investigate corruption within the UPND government in the Lusaka District, providing insights into the nature and extent of corrupt practices and their implications for governance and public trust.

## **1.2 Statement of the Problem**

Despite the initial optimism surrounding the United Party for National Development (UPND) government's assumption of power in August 2021, pledging a departure from the corruption-associated practices of the previous regime, the reality has presented a different picture. Within 15 months of the new administration, numerous corruption scandals have emerged, casting doubt on the government's commitment to transparency and accountability. For instance, the single-sourcing of Maurice Jangulo's Alpha Commodities to supply 37,000 tonnes of fertilizers at \$1,407 per tonne, compared to the prevailing market price of \$1,000 per tonne, serves as a poignant illustration of corruption increase in the UPND government. Such instances raise

concerns about potential mismanagement of public resources and undermine public trust in the government's integrity and capacity to combat corruption effectively.

Nevertheless, there have been notable advancements in addressing corruption over the past decade, but Zambia continues to grapple with significant challenges in this regard, as evidenced by empirical measures of governance and corruption in the eyes of the UPND government. According to the World Bank Governance Indicators spanning from 2012 to 2021, Zambia has demonstrated progress across all six areas of governance assessed, particularly in political stability, rule of law, government effectiveness, and control of corruption. In the Transparency International Corruption Perceptions Index of 2020, Zambia received a score of 38 on a scale of 0 (highly corrupt) to 100 (very clean), positioning it 83rd among the 177 countries evaluated. Nevertheless, this study has reviewed that this ranking underscored persisting concerns regarding corruption within the country's institutions and governance structures as its focus.

### **1.3 Research Objectives and Research Questions**

#### **1.3.1 General Objective**

An exploration of corruption in the UPND New Dawn Government in Lusaka District.

#### **1.3.2 Specific Objectives**

1. To examine the facilitating factors that increases corruption in the UPND new dawn government
2. To explore the levels of corruption in the UPND government
3. To review the current strategies in the fight against corruption under the UPND government.

#### **1.3.3 Research Questions**

1. What factors facilitate corruption increases in the UPND new dawn government in Zambia?
2. What are the strategies in managing corruption reduction by the UPND government?



3. How effective are the strategies put in place in fight against corruption under the UPND government?

#### **1.4 Significance of the study**

The rationale for exploring corruption in the UPND New Dawn Government in Lusaka District is multifaceted and crucial for several reasons:

**(i) Public accountability and transparency:** As a cornerstone of democratic governance, accountability and transparency are essential for ensuring that elected officials act in the public interest. Investigating allegations of corruption within the UPND government provides an opportunity to uphold these principles by holding those in power accountable for their actions.

**(ii) Promises of change:** The UPND government came into power with promises of ushering in a new era of integrity and accountability, contrasting with the perceived corruption of previous administrations. Understanding the extent to which these promises have been fulfilled or compromised is vital for evaluating the government's credibility and fulfilling public expectations.

**(iii) Impact on governance and development:** Corruption has profound implications for governance effectiveness and socioeconomic development. By examining corruption within the UPND government, particularly in Lusaka District, where governance decisions directly affect the lives of residents, the study can shed light on how corruption hampers development efforts and exacerbates inequality.

**(iv) Strengthening anti-corruption efforts:** Identifying and addressing instances of corruption within the UPND government can inform targeted anti-corruption measures and institutional reforms. By understanding the root causes and dynamics of corruption in Lusaka District, policymakers can develop more effective strategies to combat graft and promote good governance.

**(v) Building trust and confidence:** Transparency and accountability are essential for fostering trust and confidence in government institutions. Through rigorous investigation and documentation of corruption allegations, the study can contribute to rebuilding trust between citizens and the government, fostering a more accountable and responsive governance system.

**(vi) Knowledge generation and policy recommendations:** Research on corruption within the UPND New Dawn Government can generate valuable insights and empirical evidence to inform policymaking and advocacy efforts. By disseminating findings and recommendations, the study can catalyze dialogue and action among stakeholders to address systemic corruption challenges effectively.

(vii) Several public and private institutions stand to benefit from the study on exploring corruption in the UPND New Dawn Government in Lusaka District. Below is a critical view of how each institution could benefit:

**(a) The University of Zambia (UNZA):**

The University of Zambia can use the study's findings to enrich academic discourse and research on governance, corruption, and political dynamics in Zambia. It can also serve as a basis for curriculum development, providing students with real-world case studies and analytical tools to understand the complexities of corruption in political contexts.

**(b) Anti-Corruption Commission (ACC):**

The ACC can use the study's findings to inform its investigative priorities and strategies, focusing on areas of potential corruption highlighted in the research. It can also serve as an advocacy tool to raise public awareness about corruption risks and promote greater transparency and accountability in governance.

**(c) Transparency International Zambia (TIZ):**

TIZ can leverage the study's findings to advocate for policy reforms and institutional changes aimed at reducing corruption and enhancing transparency in Zambia. It can also use the research as evidence to mobilize civil society and international stakeholders in the fight against corruption.

**Government Officials and Politicians:** This group could provide insights into the inner workings of the UPND government and shed light on potential corruption practices or challenges within the administration. However, accessing this group might pose challenges due to reluctance to disclose sensitive information or concerns about political repercussions.

Civil Society Organizations: NGOs and advocacy groups focused on governance and anti-corruption efforts could offer perspectives from outside the government and provide valuable data and analysis on corruption issues in Lusaka District. However, there might be variations in the credibility and reliability of different organizations, requiring careful selection and validation of sources.

**(viii) Significance to the Social Work Profession:**

The significance of the study "Exploring Corruption in the UPND Government in Lusaka District" in relation to the social work profession lies in several key areas:

(a) Advocacy and Social Justice: Social workers are often at the forefront of advocating for social justice and equity. Understanding and addressing corruption within a government, regardless of political affiliation, is essential for promoting fairness and integrity in governance. This study can shed light on the specific manifestations of corruption within the UPND government in Lusaka District, allowing social workers to advocate for systemic changes that promote transparency and accountability.

(b) Ethical Practice: Ethical considerations are paramount in social work. Corruption undermines the ethical principles of social work, such as integrity, respect for individuals, and social justice. By examining corruption within the UPND government, social workers can assess the ethical implications for their practice and develop strategies to uphold ethical standards in their interactions with government agencies and individuals affected by corruption.

(c) Community Development: Corruption can have detrimental effects on communities, including hindering socio-economic development, exacerbating inequality, and undermining trust in public institutions. Social workers play a crucial role in community development efforts, and understanding the dynamics of corruption within local government can inform strategies to empower communities, build resilience, and mitigate the impact of corruption on vulnerable populations.

(d) Policy Advocacy and Reform: Social workers engage in policy advocacy to promote systemic changes that benefit individuals and communities. Findings from this study can inform advocacy efforts aimed at reforming anti-corruption policies, strengthening oversight

mechanisms, and enhancing transparency in government operations. By leveraging evidence-based research, social workers can contribute to the development and implementation of effective policies to combat corruption and promote good governance.

(e) **Cross-Disciplinary Collaboration:** Addressing corruption requires collaboration across various disciplines, including law, political science, and economics. Social workers can collaborate with experts from these fields to conduct interdisciplinary research, develop comprehensive anti-corruption strategies, and advocate for multi-sectoral approaches to addressing corruption at the local, national, and international levels.

### **1.5 Scope of the Study**

This study focused exclusively on political corruption within Lusaka district, specifically examining its implications within the context of the UPND government. By narrowing the scope to this geographic area and political entity, the research aimed to provide a detailed analysis of corruption practices, their impact, and the effectiveness of anti-corruption measures within the jurisdiction of the UPND administration. This focused approach enabled a deeper understanding of the dynamics of political corruption in Lusaka and its association with the ruling party, facilitating targeted recommendations for addressing corruption challenges within this specific context.

### **1.6 Conceptual Framework**

A conceptual framework for exploring corruption in the UPND government in Lusaka District was structured around several key components:

(a) **Contextual Factors:** Investigate the socio-political, economic, and cultural factors that contribute to corruption within the UPND government in Lusaka District. Consider the historical context, political dynamics, economic conditions, cultural norms, and legal framework that shape the prevalence and nature of corruption in the region.

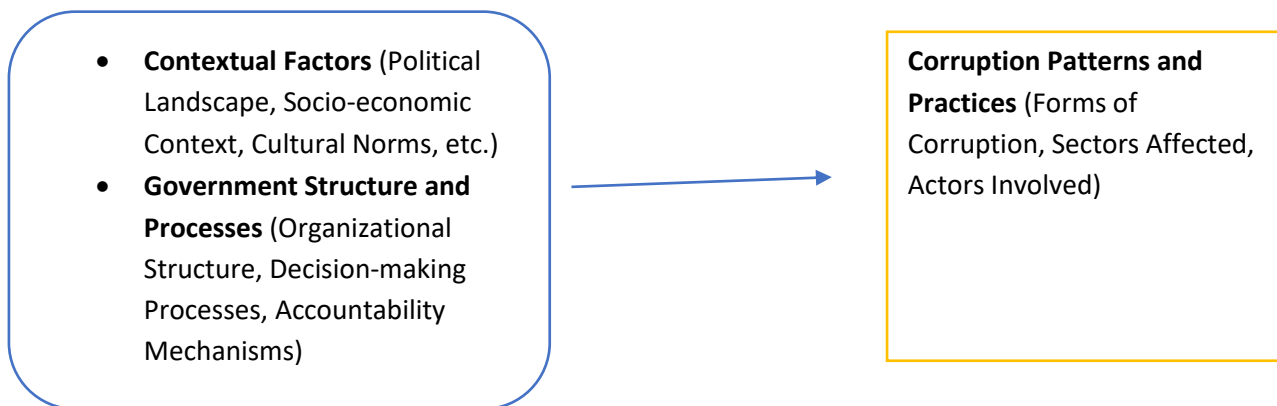
(b) **Government Structure and Processes:** Analyze the organizational structure, decision-making processes, and accountability mechanisms within the UPND government. Explore how these factors influence opportunities for corruption, the distribution of power and resources, and the effectiveness of anti-corruption measures.

(c) **Corruption Patterns and Practices:** Identify specific patterns and practices of corruption within the UPND government in Lusaka District. This may include bribery, embezzlement, nepotism, cronyism, and other forms of corrupt behavior observed within government agencies and institutions.

(d) **Impact and Consequences:** Assess the impact and consequences of corruption on governance, public service delivery, economic development, social cohesion, and human rights in Lusaka District. Consider how corruption affects different sectors and population groups, exacerbates inequality, undermines trust in government, and erodes public confidence in democratic institutions.

### **Independent Variables**

### **Dependent Variable**



In the diagram above, the independent variables (Contextual Factors and Government Structure and Processes) influence the dependent variables (Corruption Patterns and Practices, Impact and Consequences), which in turn inform the development and implementation of Mitigation Strategies. Each component is interconnected, illustrating the multifaceted nature of corruption and the various factors that contribute to its occurrence and mitigation.

By employing this conceptual framework, researchers can systematically investigate the complex dynamics of corruption within the UPND government in Lusaka District, identify opportunities

for intervention, and contribute to the development of evidence-based anti-corruption strategies and policies.

## **1.7 Theoretical framework**

Corruption is a complex subject hence no single theory explains it all. However, this section of the study adopts the game theory to help explore corruption under the new dawn government.

### **1.7.1 Game theory**

Game theory falls in the branch of mathematics concerned with the analysis of strategies for dealing with competitive situations where the outcome of a participant's choice of action depends critically on the actions of other participants. Game theory borrows from an economic literature and seeks to find establish the rationale which public officials conduct corrupt practices. Macrae (1982) argued that corruption is part of rational calculus and an important part through which decisions are made. In this regard, people face a “prisoner’s dilemma” which describes a conflict between group rationality and individuals (Kuhn, 2019). In view of this, individuals fear to be disadvantaged if they refuse to engage into corrupt practices while others they do not refuse to do in the exact situation. Hence, as such, individuals obtain some benefits which, however, is less as compared what they would have benefited if all them refused to engage into corrupt practices. For instance, this is illustrated in the procurement of public goods where participants in corruption inclusive of the actors from the private sector that are not sure of the actions of others. This fear comes as the result of the fear of being outdone by competitors who are acting unethical or illegally thus motivating otherwise ethical companies to engage in corrupt practices during the procurement process. This unethical behavior engaged in by public officials is what has continued to perpetrate corruption in public offices even under the UPND government. These corrupt practices rob people and the nation of the resources to champion and promote meaningful development in areas that need massive development in Zambia. A good number of public officials continue to engage in corruption mainly for selfish interests in trying to keep up with expensive lifestyles that they cannot afford from their ordinary salaries. Based on this observation, it confirms the game theory that corruption is simply a game. For example, so many anti-corruption laws have been enacted, yet corruption is far from being reduced by the New

Dawn Government, hence approaching corruption as a game. The colossal sums of money embezzled have left the country in a position where the attainment of SDGs is still a challenge thereby exacerbating poverty especially in rural areas. More needs to be done by government to curb corruption promote development in the country.

## **CHAPTER TWO: LITERATURE REVIEW**

### **2.1 Introduction**

This section provides literature that has been conducted on corruption. The section presents forms, types, drivers of corruption and theoretical underpinnings in politics related to the UPND government since they came into power.

### **2.2 Types of corruption**

Corruption is a form of dishonesty or a criminal offense which is undertaken by a person or an organization which is entrusted in a position of authority, in order to acquire illicit benefits or abuse power for one's personal gain (Ogunrinade, 2019). Corruption may involve many activities which include bribery, influence peddling and the embezzlement and it may also involve practices which are legal in many countries (Maiga, 2003). Political corruption occurs when an office-holder or other governmental employee acts with an official capacity for personal gain. Corruption is most common in kleptocracies, oligarchies, narco-states, and mafia states (Transparency International, 2015). Corruption exists in many different types and below are some of the types of corruption:

#### **2.2.1 Petty corruption**

Shah (2007) asserts that petty corruption is sometimes equated with “bureaucratic corruption,” which implies involvement of public administration officials and non-elected officials. Some examples of the use of petty corruption include bribes paid to enforcement officials, customs personnel, health service providers, and other government officials. Facilitation payments, also known as “grease” payments, fall under this category. Mutondoro (2012), further argued that petty corruption is in form of small bribes that are paid for instance during the registration process, in acquiring public services etc. Therefore, these bribes are extended to favors and results in personal connections between politicians, elites and investors. These connections imply that politicians and public officials can benefit from corruption practices through taking advantage of impunity, favoritism, tribalism and nepotism (Maclinnes 2012).



### **2.2.2 Grand corruption**

Shah (2007) opines that grand corruption involves higher ranking government officials and elected officials who exploit opportunities that are presented through government work. It is more often the result of bribes offered or paid in connection with larger scale government projects, such as infrastructure and construction projects. In grand corruption, politicians and senior government officials are able to access favors for instance lease rights to large areas for companies owned by the same politicians (MacInnes, 2012). Further, Brakov (2012) argued that grand corruption land sector is usually hard to document as it usually involves holders of political and economic power. Both authors further stated that grand corruption opens a way for widespread of abuse of public offices while enriching individuals who are close to the government. Therefore, the next section provides commons form of corruption in various sectors.

### **2.2.3 Political Corruption**

Political corruption is considered a type of grand corruption due to its seriousness and the high-ranking level of public officials involved. It exists where politicians and government agents who are entrusted with enforcing laws are themselves corrupt: it occurs at the top levels of government (Welsch, 2014). Another type of grand corruption is “State capture,” which is defined as a company or organization that shapes and influences legislation or government policies in an entire sector (e.g., the extractive and mining industry or taxation) through payments (Phiri, 2017). The opposite effect can also occur, whereby public officials attempt to manipulate actors in the private sector for their own personal gain, also known as “reversed State capture.” State capture has a not-so-distant equivalent known as “influence corruption,” for which the actors and goals are identical. The difference is in the absence of any payment, advantage or transaction ever taking place. In this case, influence is exerted based on the organization’s ability to impact policy as a result of its size, its ownership, or potential ties to, and interactions with, State officials (Mutondoro, 2012).

### 2.3 Causes of Corruption

There has been a wave of empirical studies on the causes and consequences of corruption in recent years (Olajide, 2020). With respect to the causes of corruption, this study, similar to Bardhan (2006), points out that there are generally two different approaches to research the causes of corruption, namely the standard economic approach and also the social economic approach. The standard economic approach emphasizes incentives and punishments in corrupt acts following Becker's analytical framework (1968). According to this approach, there are three prerequisites necessary for the incidence of corruption (Jain, 2001). First, bureaucrats have discretionary power. Second, this power is associated with economic rents. Finally, the deterrence to corruption, as a function of the probability of being caught and the penalty for the corrupt act, is adequately low. The first two preconditions determine the benefit of corruption, while the last precondition influences the cost of corruption.

Many studies adopting this approach concentrate upon economic conditions and policies influencing the cost and/or benefit of corruption (Ades and Di Tella, 1999). Literature shows that regulation and decentralization are the main determinants of the discretionary power of a government. Economic rents, on the other hand, increase with natural resource abundance, but decrease with economic competition proxied by trade openness. All of these factors are observed to substantially affect the benefit of corruption (Fisman and Gatti, 2002).

The deterrence of corruption is a joint function of the possibility of being detected and the punishment once caught (Mauro, 1995). High levels of economic development, education attainment and media access have been documented to reduce corruption by raising the possibility that corrupt acts are detected. Historical influence also plays an important role in corruption (Treisman, 2000). Furthermore, corruption has also been found to be negatively correlated with female representation in politics, possibly because women may feel a larger probability of being caught in an act of corruption (Dollar *et al.*, 2001). Social and economic heterogeneity is also an indirect determinant of the probability of corrupt acts being caught. For example, ethnical fractionalization is believed to promote corruption since corrupt officials may be protected by their own ethnic groups for political reasons (see also Treisman, 2000). Finally,

the relatively high wage of the public sector implies a high opportunity cost when officials are ousted due to corruption. As a proxy for the punishment, the (relative) wage of the public sector is found to be negatively associated with the corruption level (Van Rijkeghem and Weder, 2001).

Sakala (2018) study on "Corruption in Zambia: A Comparative Analysis of Urban and Rural Areas" aimed to investigate the factors contributing to corruption in both urban and rural settings in Zambia. Findings indicated that while urban corruption was primarily driven by bureaucratic inefficiency and lack of accountability, rural corruption stemmed from issues like limited access to resources and socio-economic disparities. The conclusion drawn was that corruption manifests differently in urban and rural contexts, suggesting the need for tailored anti-corruption strategies. However, there were gaps noted, such as the limited sample size in rural areas and insufficient exploration of cultural factors influencing corruption. Recommendations included conducting further research with larger samples in rural areas and integrating cultural sensitivity into anti-corruption policies.

Smith (2019) conducted a study on "Political Connections and Corruption in Africa: Evidence from a Survey Experiment in Ghana" aimed to examine the relationship between political connections and corrupt behavior among public officials in Ghana. The findings revealed a significant correlation between political connections and engagement in corrupt practices among public officials. The conclusion drawn was that political patronage exacerbates corruption by fostering a culture of impunity among public officials. However, there were gaps identified, including limited generalizability beyond Ghana and a lack of exploration of alternative causal mechanisms. Recommendations included replicating the study in other African countries and investigating additional factors contributing to corruption beyond political connections.

Osei (2017) did a study on "Corruption and Economic Development: A Panel Data Analysis of Sub-Saharan African Countries" aimed to analyze the impact of corruption on economic development in Sub-Saharan African countries. The study found a negative association between corruption levels and economic growth, with corruption hindering investment and undermining public trust in institutions. The conclusion drawn was that corruption impedes economic development by distorting market mechanisms and eroding investor confidence. However, there was a gap noted in the lack of qualitative insights into the specific mechanisms through which

corruption affects economic growth. Recommendations included combining quantitative analysis with qualitative research to provide a more comprehensive understanding of the dynamics between corruption and economic development.

Kamara (2018) did a study on "Gender Perspectives on Corruption: A Case Study of Women's Experiences in the Zambian Public Sector" aimed to explore the gender dimensions of corruption in the Zambian public sector and its implications for gender equality. Findings revealed that women in the Zambian public sector face unique challenges in navigating corrupt practices, often experiencing discrimination and marginalization. The conclusion drawn was that gender disparities intersect with corruption, exacerbating inequalities and hindering women's advancement in the public sector. However, there were gaps identified, including a limited focus on intersectional identities beyond gender and reliance on qualitative data without quantitative validation. Recommendations included incorporating intersectional analysis into anti-corruption policies and conducting further research using mixed-method approaches.

Mwale (2019) did a study on "The Role of Civil Society in Combating Corruption: Lessons from Anti-Corruption Campaigns in Africa". The study aimed to assess the effectiveness of civil society initiatives in combating corruption across African countries. The study identified successful anti-corruption campaigns led by civil society organizations (CSOs) in mobilizing public awareness and holding governments accountable. The conclusion drawn was that civil society plays a crucial role in supplementing government efforts to combat corruption by fostering transparency and accountability. However, there were gaps identified, including a limited examination of the challenges faced by CSOs in sustaining anti-corruption momentum and insufficient cross-country comparisons. Recommendations included conducting in-depth case studies of successful CSO-led initiatives and facilitating knowledge-sharing among CSOs across African countries to enhance anti-corruption collaboration.

## **2.4 Consequences of Corruption**

Corruption is believed to have a detrimental effect on economic development and hence social welfare. Many studies examine the relationship between corruption and economic growth since there is indeed a debate on the effect of corruption on economic growth. Some scholars argue

that corruption may improve efficiency and hence promote economic growth by allowing enterprisers to circumvent cumbersome regulations with bribes especially in developing countries. However, the majority of literature insists that corruption lowers economic growth because it may reduce the incentive of private investment (Bardhan, 1997), distort public investment decisions (Tanzi and Davoodi, 1997), and induce talented people into rent-seeking activities (Murphy, Shleifer and Vishny, 1991). Most empirical studies indeed support the fact that corruption impedes economic growth mainly through channels of investment, openness and political instability (Mauro, 1995, Mo, 2001).

Specifically, corruption is found to reduce foreign direct investment (Wei, 2000a) because high corruption in host countries may imply high expropriation risk. Moreover, Fredriksson *et al.* (2003) show that corruption may influence FDI through another channel: environmental regulation. On the other hand, corruption may distort public investment. According to Mauro (1998), corrupt politicians may increase public expenditure easy to collect bribes, while decreasing expenditure providing fewer bribery opportunities. Furthermore, he empirically observes that corruption significantly reduces public expenditure on education.

Corruption also substantially affects income distribution. Gupta, Davoodi and Alonso Terme (2002) find that corruption significantly increases income inequality, while Li *et al.* (2000) observe that corruption influences income inequality in a reversed U-shaped manner. The adverse effects of corruption on the environment are also documented in literature. Welsch (2014) found that corruption aggravates pollution especially in developing countries, while Cole (2017) provides seemingly contradicting evidence. More investigation is therefore needed. Pellegrini and Gerlagh (2016) however provide solid evidence that corruption has a substantially negative effect on the environment policy stringency, which may imply that corruption affects pollution mainly through environment policy making. Furthermore, both theoretical and empirical evidence has shown that corruption not only reduces the stringency of environmental policy but also modifies the effects of other determinants of environment policy (Damania *et al.*, 2013, and Cole *et al.*, 2016).

## **2.5 Economic, Cultural and Political change in combating corruption in Zambia**

Although the Corruption Perception Index (CPI) failed to improve until 2008, the World Bank's Governance Indicators suggest a steady improvement in the control of corruption since 2002. A number of steps were taken to reduce corruption under former President Mwanawasa. The fight against corruption was included in the Fifth National Development Plan (FNDP), finalised in December 2006. Furthermore, a main objective of 2004 National Governance Baseline Survey (NGBS) was to obtain information that would assist the Government of Zambia (GRZ) in designing a comprehensive public sector reform strategy, entailing three components (decentralisation, Public Financial Management (PFM), and Public Service Management (PSM)). Corporating Partners (CPs) strongly supported President Mwanawasa in his fight against corruption, which they nonetheless described as remaining 'ad hoc and not systematic'. The Task Force on Corruption (TFC) was established in 2002 to prosecute former president Frederick Chiluba and other leading figures responsible for the plunder of public funds during the previous administration (1991-2001).

The Mwanawasa administration also investigated its own government officials, but was also criticised for evidently interfering in some prosecution cases. These efforts took place against a backdrop of continued constitutional debate, as a Constitution Review Commission was appointed in 2003 under the chairmanship of a prominent Lusaka lawyer, Willa Mung'omba, and a National Constitution Conference to review Mung'omba recommendations was enacted towards the end of 2007. In the meantime, with donor encouragement, Zambia ratified international treaties, including the United Nations Convention against Corruption (UNCAC) in 2007, and new bills (including procurement, public finance act and a new AC Bill) were enacted. GRZ, however, continued procrastinating the approval of the National Anti-Corruption Policy (NACP), drafted by the ACC in 2006. Some donors feel that the record of President Banda's government in tackling corruption is mixed. To many people's dismay, former president Chiluba was acquitted of embezzling public funds in a Zambian court in August 2009; this, despite the fact that Chiluba had been found liable for defrauding GRZ of US\$46 million (GBP 23 million) by a UK civil court two years before. The head of the TFC (who was acting since 2007) requested the Director of Public Prosecution (DPP) to appeal, but his contract was not renewed; and TFC was disbanded. Corruption scandal allegations continued to leak in the press, one

related to an oil procurement deal that allegedly involved President Banda. Corruption scandals continued in the PF administration under President Lungu. The purchase of firetrucks at US\$ 1 Million is a case in point. There were little efforts to investigate corruption cases under the Lungu administration. The Anti-Corruption Commission (ACC) literally had no power to pursue such cases as there was interference from the president.

## **2.6 Measures to fight Corruption in Africa**

Olajide (2020) study looked measures taken by the Nigerian Government to Tackle Corruption. He noted that corruption is a major challenge facing Nigeria's development, undermining public trust, and fueling social and political instability (Olajide, 2020). Therefore, the Nigerian government has implemented several measures to address corruption in various sectors, including legal, institutional, and cultural approaches.

The Nigerian government has passed several laws to curb corruption and punish corrupt practices. The most prominent of these laws are the Independent Corrupt Practices and Other Related Offences Commission (ICPC) Act of 2000, the Economic and Financial Crimes Commission (EFCC) Act of 2004, and the Money Laundering (Prohibition) Act of 2011 (Odinkalu, 2017). These laws provide for the investigation, prosecution, and punishment of individuals involved in corrupt practices such as bribery, embezzlement, and money laundering. Furthermore, Nigeria is a signatory to several international agreements, including the United Nations Convention Against Corruption (UNCAC) and African Union Convention on Preventing and Combating Corruption (AUPCC). These agreements require states to take measures aimed at reducing corruption and promoting transparency and accountability within governance structures. The government has established mechanisms such as the Freedom of Information Act, which enables citizens to access information held by public institutions. Additionally, the government has initiated efforts to improve financial management and governance, including the implementation of a single treasury account and the deployment of the Integrated Payroll and Personnel Information System (IPPIS). The Nigerian government enacted a Public Procurement Act which aimed at ensuring transparency and accountability in public procurement. The Act sets out the rules and procedures for public procurement and requires that contracts are awarded

through competitive bidding. The Act also establishes the Bureau of Public Procurement (BPP) to oversee compliance with the Act.

However, no matter the amount of legal frame put in any nation but lack the independence of the judiciary; that fight would be a defeated one from the very beginning. Just as the saying goes, “the court is the last hope of the common man” in any democratic institution. Hence, in order not to give room for jungle justice to thrive, any democratic nation must avail the court the independence to discharge their constitutional duties without any interference from either the executive or legislative organs of government. In the developed climes, they tenaciously hold onto the independent of their judicial system knowing that its failure is automatically the end to democracy. Because Nigeria as a country practice a democratic system, the 1999 Constitution of Federal Republic of Nigeria as amended under section 6 made provision for the judiciary. Hence, anyone who feels that his/her rights have been, is being or is likely to be trampled upon has right to seek redress at the court of law seized with the requisite constitutional jurisdiction and justice will be served. It is unfortunate that the fight against corruption has not yielded the desired results despite the number of resources that has been expanded in the judiciary and some of the anti-graft agencies such as EFCC, ICPC and others. This is not far fetch from the fact that some judicial officers who ordinarily ought to protect and defend and promote justice and rule of law have becomes an enemy of justice. Some conspire with some anti-graft agencies in company of the defendant’s/suspect’s lawyer to pervert justice after the suspect/defendant has offered them some huge amount of money just to get off the hook. It is no longer news that some defendant’s lawyers most times have seen technicalities as a soft landing for their clients whenever they perceive that their client may be convicted after they have tried to bribe their way through and it failed. There is plethora of instances where an accused person was discharged and possibly acquitted on the altar of technicalities especially in matters that deals with fraud and money laundering. A good example is the FRN v Orji Uzor Kalu, where he was discharged and acquitted under the guise of technicalities and this has been the window that most persons who have been alleged of corrupt practices have had their freedom and the judiciary must find a way to discouraged same and rather decide the case based on the substance of it and not on technicalities.



The Nigerian government has strengthened the institutions responsible for preventing and combating corruption. One of the significant efforts made by the government is the establishment of anti-corruption agencies such as the Economic and Financial Crimes Commission (EFCC) and the Independent Corrupt Practices and Other Related Offences Commission (ICPC). These agencies are responsible for investigating and prosecuting corrupt officials (Ogunrinade, 2019). The EFCC and the ICPC are the two primary anti-corruption agencies with a mandate to investigate and prosecute corruption cases. To make the agencies more efficient, the government has made efforts to ensure their autonomy, increase their institutional capacity, and provide them with adequate resources to carry out their mandate (Uzairue & Oghagbon, 2020). Another effort made by the Nigerian Government to tackle corruption is the establishment of e-governance systems. These systems enable online interaction between citizens and government institutions, thereby reducing the opportunities for corrupt practices in public service delivery (Uzairue & Oghagbon, 2020).

The Nigerian government has adopted certain policies to change the existing cultural norms that fuel corruption. One of these policies is the National Orientation Agency (NOA) strategy known as 'Re-orientation of Nigerian Values and National Ethics Project.' The strategy aims to promote ethical values such as integrity, honesty, and hard work while condemning corrupt practices (Olajide, 2020). The project involves campaigns that have been implemented across Nigeria to encourage citizens to adopt ethical values, as well as public sector reforms aimed at reducing opportunities for graft. The government has strengthened oversight institutions, such as the Auditor-General's office and the Public Complaints Commission, to ensure greater accountability and transparency in government operations. Furthermore, the government has approved the National Anti-Corruption Strategy, which is a roadmap to guide the fight against corruption. The strategy includes the development of a public service code of conduct, civil society involvement, and the establishment of public-private partnerships to minimize corruption in the private sector (Ogunrinade, 2019). Moreover, the government has launched several campaigns, including the War against Indiscipline, the War against Corruption, and the Change Begins with Me campaign. These campaigns aim to change the cultural and social norms surrounding corruption and promote ethical values such as honesty, integrity, and accountability (Olajide, 2020). The Nigerian government has implemented a Whistleblower Policy aimed at encouraging citizens to

report cases of corruption. The policy rewards people who provide credible information that leads to the recovery of stolen assets. The policy has led to the recovery of billions of naira in stolen assets and the prosecution of several high-profile corrupt persons.

## **2.7 Fight Against Corruption in Malawi**

Tengatenga (2019) conducted a study to establish the drivers of corruption in Malawi amidst the plethora of anti-corruption policies and initiatives. The study showed that anti-corruption efforts and policies in Malawi can be traced back to the dawn of multi-party system in the early 1990s. It acknowledged the emergence of political will to fight corruption under the leadership of president Bakili Muluzi resulted in the enactment of the Corruption Practices Act (CPA) in 1995 and the establishment of the Anti-Corruption Bureau (ACB). These developments were followed by many other anti-corruption initiatives and policies over the years. However, the study noted that that corruption levels in Malawi have worsened, especially in recent years, despite the country's many anti-corruption legislation and policies. The study found that the drivers behind corruption in Malawi are complex and that they involve, among other things, political, structural, economic and personal motives.

The consensus in the study was that Malawi does not lack legal or institutional frameworks to fight corruption since many institutions have been established and policies enacted in response to the vice. Starting with legal frameworks, Malawi passed its first anti-corruption policy, the Corruption Practices Act, in 1995 which was followed by the Public Procurement Act and the Public Audit Act in 2003, the Money Laundering, Proceeds of Serious Crime and Terrorist Act in 2006, the National Anti-Corruption Strategy (NACS) in 2009, the Public Officer's Declaration of Assets, Liabilities and Business Interests Bill in 2013, the Access to Information Act in 2017 and the Political Parties Act in 2018, just to mention to a few. As the names suggest, all these Acts and policies aim at promoting public transparency, accountability and reducing corruption.

Gorsire *et al* (2018) conducted a study aimed at better understand why public officials and business employees engage in corruption in Malawi. Insight into individual-level explanations for corruption was obtained with the aid of a self-report survey. The results suggested that the most indicative factors of whether or not individuals are corruption-prone are as follows: the moral conviction they have to refrain from corruption; perceptions of whether their colleagues

approve of and engage in corruption; and difficulties experienced in complying with the rules on corruption. This result pattern was identical for public officials and business employees alike, and as a consequence, for both sides of corrupt acts. The latter indicates that the same motives may not only underlie corruption in both private and public sectors, but also the act of corruption in its active and passive forms. The results of the study do not provide strong support for the assumption that economic considerations—expected costs and benefits—are crucial in predicting corruption. Based on the findings that norms and the perceived opportunity to comply are dominant factors in explaining corruption.

Siyasiya (2024) study on corruption in Malawi aimed at investigating the main causes, consequences and solutions for corruption in Malawi. It was uncovered from the study that corruption is indeed a serious problem in Malawi with the most common forms of corruption being misallocations of government funds, bribery, theft of public funds including physical assets, collusion during contract awarding processes, theft of funds from parastatals and money laundering. It was also found that government ministries, parastatals, The Malawi Police Service (MPS), government hospitals' clinicians, parliamentarians, mining sectors are the most actors and institutions that are characterized by corrupt practices. The most cited effects of corruption in Malawi have been found to be economic underperformance (underdevelopment) and poverty perpetuation. Greed, lack of transparency, poverty, lack of rule of law, low salaries, cheap politics, weak institutions, lack of serious enforcement mechanisms, inefficient judiciary and power imbalances have been found to be the main causes of corruption in Malawi. Most of Malawians also think that stiff punishments to corruption offenders, public sector reforms to deal away with unnecessary bureaucracies and effective law enforcement, increased transparency when it comes to use of funds through necessary access to information laws, rule of law and strong political will to end corruption; which need to be implemented by the president, government ministers, and law making and enforcement agencies such as the police, judiciary and parliamentarians; are very crucial in the fight against corruption. It has also been uncovered through this study that dealing with corruption should therefore result into improved economic performance and reduction of poverty in Malawi.

## **2.8 Fight Against Corruption in Zambia**

The fight against corruption in Zambia is a multifaceted endeavor that involves various stakeholders, strategies, and initiatives aimed at promoting transparency, accountability, and integrity in governance (NORAD, 2011).

Mbao (2009) opines that on 27 August 2009, the Government of the Republic of Zambia launched a national anti-corruption policy and strategic document aimed at providing a framework for preventing and combating corruption in a comprehensive, coordinated, inclusive and sustainable manner. That significant milestone marked a candid acknowledgement that previous efforts at legal and institutional reforms have had very limited impact on the prevalence of corruption which, in the Zambian context, ranges from petty bribes and misuse of state power at public goods and services delivery points, to the embezzlement and looting of national resources. This paper sought to critically evaluate the extent to which these latest policy objectives and strategic interventions advance the so-called war on corruption. The paper argues that given the pervasive and insidious nature of corruption, it is not enough to adopt pious declarations and public campaigns in the name of zero-tolerance for corruption. What is required is unwavering political will to follow-through on these declarations, buttressed by a holistic approach to enhance transparency, accountability, integrity and participation by all segments of society.

Chisanga and Phiri (2019) conducted a study on "Corruption in Zambia: What is the role for civil society?" The study aimed to explore the role of civil society organizations (CSOs) in combating corruption in Zambia. Employing qualitative methods such as interviews, focus group discussions, and document analysis, the researchers investigated the activities and effectiveness of CSOs in addressing corruption. The findings suggested that while CSOs play a crucial role in raising awareness about corruption and advocating for policy reforms, they face challenges such as limited resources and political interference. The study concluded that greater collaboration between CSOs, government institutions, and other stakeholders was necessary to achieve meaningful impact, emphasizing the importance of strengthening the legal and regulatory framework for CSOs. Potential gaps included a limited focus on specific successful anti-corruption initiatives led by CSOs and the perspectives of marginalized groups or grassroots organizations in the fight against corruption.

Matapa and Ekundayo (2018) study aimed to assess the effectiveness of Zambia's Anti-Corruption Commission (ACC) in combating corruption. Using a mixed-methods approach, including qualitative interviews and quantitative analysis of ACC's performance data and corruption perception surveys, the researchers found that while the ACC has made progress in investigating and prosecuting corruption cases, challenges such as limited resources and political interference hinder its effectiveness. The study concluded that enhancing the ACC's institutional capacity and independence, along with improving coordination with other law enforcement agencies, was essential for combating corruption in Zambia. Potential gaps included a limited examination of international cooperation's role in enhancing the ACC's effectiveness and the perspectives of individuals and communities affected by corruption.

## **2.9 Review of the current strategies to fight corruption in Zambia**

According to Transparency International Zambia (TIZ) (2022) report the UPND government has instituted a number of measures to try and fight corruption in the country. Below are some of the measures put in place:

### **Legislation and Legal Framework**

**Anti-Corruption Commission (ACC):** The Anti-Corruption Commission in Zambia was established to serve as an independent body responsible for investigating and prosecuting corruption cases. Its mandate included probing allegations of corruption, educating the public about corruption-related issues, and collaborating with law enforcement agencies to ensure corrupt individuals were brought to justice.

**Anti-Corruption Act:** The most significant piece of legislation in Zambia's anti-corruption efforts was the Anti-Corruption Act. This act outlined various forms of corrupt practices, their penalties, and the procedures for investigating and prosecuting individuals involved in corrupt activities. It defined corruption as acts of bribery, fraud, extortion, embezzlement, abuse of office, and other related offenses.

### **Preventive Measures**

**Public Education and Awareness Campaigns:** Zambia implemented public education campaigns to raise awareness about the detrimental effects of corruption and the importance of reporting

corrupt practices. These campaigns aimed to inform citizens about their rights and responsibilities in fighting corruption.

**Ethics Training for Public Officials:** To promote integrity and transparency within the public sector, public officials received ethics training. This training emphasized the importance of maintaining high ethical standards and acting in the best interests of the public.

**Promotion of Integrity and Transparency:** Government institutions and public bodies were encouraged to adopt and maintain high standards of integrity and transparency. This involved the development of codes of conduct for public servants and the establishment of mechanisms for accountability and reporting.

**Whistleblower Protection:** Zambia recognized the importance of protecting individuals who reported corruption. Whistleblower protection mechanisms were put in place to ensure that those who exposed corrupt practices were safe from retaliation. These mechanisms often included measures to maintain the confidentiality of whistleblowers' identities and provisions for legal protection.

### **Transparency Initiatives**

**E-Government Platform:** Zambia took steps to enhance transparency and accountability in public administration through the use of technology. The E-Government platform aimed to provide citizens with easy access to government information, including financial data, public expenditure, and procurement processes. This digital platform promoted openness in government operations and allowed for greater scrutiny of government activities. Transparency initiatives like the E-Government platform were essential in providing citizens and civil society organizations with the tools to monitor government spending, contracts, and decision-making, thereby reducing opportunities for corruption and enhancing public trust in government institutions.

Overall, the combination of strong legislation, preventive measures, whistleblower protection, and transparency initiatives aimed to create an environment in Zambia where corruption could be effectively identified, reported, and prosecuted, while also discouraging corrupt practices in the first place. The effectiveness of these measures would depend on factors such as their

implementation, public awareness, and the commitment of relevant institutions to upholding anti-corruption efforts.

## **2.10 Challenges in the fight against corruption**

Maiga (2023) conducted a study on fighting corruption in developing countries to meet the challenge of human capital development: evidence from sub-Saharan African countries. This study provides both theoretical and empirical evidence on the need to consider institutions in human capital development in Sub-Saharan African (SSA) countries. In a model of human capital accumulation with public expenditure where he includes a corruption parameter, it is found that when a bureaucrat or any other agent takes away part of the amount allocated to education or health, he reduces the quantity and quality of public services. Moreover, an estimation with the generalized moment method in system on panel data of 35 countries covering the period 1996–2018, the results show on the one hand that corruption manages to reduce the output of education and the average duration of studies and life expectancy of citizens through its negative effect on public spending in the education and health sector. On the other hand, corruption has a direct and negative impact on the performance of education. Indeed, it creates a lack of motivation in learning and in plans to pursue higher education because the return is very low, as is access to health and education services. In addition, corruption also distorts the allocation of public expenditure in favor of military, transport, mining, energy, and fuel expenditure as opposed to health and education expenditure. The effectiveness of governments in combating corruption is fundamental to human capital accumulation in Sub-Saharan African countries.

## **CHAPTER THREE: RESEARCH METHODOLOGY**

### **3.1 Introduction**

This chapter gives the methodology of the study. It looks at the research design, types of data, population, sample size, sampling technique, data collection, data analysis and ethical considerations.

### **3.2 Research Design**

A mixed-method approach was chosen to provide a comprehensive understanding of corruption dynamics and anti-corruption efforts under the UPND government. The quantitative component allows for the measurement of corruption levels and the assessment of the effectiveness of existing anti-corruption measures, drawing on data that can be quantified and analyzed statistically. Meanwhile, the qualitative component facilitates the exploration of contextual factors, stakeholders' perspectives, and the intricacies of corruption phenomena, offering insights that quantitative data alone cannot capture. The integration of both quantitative and qualitative methods aligns with the study's objectives by enabling a multi-dimensional analysis of corruption issues, enhancing the depth and richness of findings. Additionally, the use of mixed methods resonates with the complexity of corruption as a social phenomenon, acknowledging the need for a nuanced approach to research and policy formulation in addressing such multifaceted challenges. (Cooper and Schindler, 2006).

### **3.3 Types of Data**

#### **3.3.1 Primary Data**

Primary data came from the respondents in this case Lusaka residents. The study employed the use of a semi structured questionnaire which had both closed and open-ended questions (Bryman and Bell, 2007). The questionnaire was divided into pieces, with the first section containing biographical information about the respondents and the other sections containing questions for each of the study's three research questions. Interviews were also conducted using the interview guide to gather indepth information from key informants on the subject matter.



### **3.3.2 Secondary data**

Secondary data is data that is compiled by the researcher him/herself and not the user. This type of data is not specifically for the case under study. Secondary data of this study included annual reports published articles by anti-corruption watchdogs, Auditor general reports, Newspapers, and newsletters. Further, the data that was collected was scrutinized for authenticity, reliability, adequacy, suitability, and validity in research questions answering.

### **3.4 Population study**

Population study is defined as a group of people from a general population as a whole who share certain characteristics such as sex, age, or work conditions. In this regard, the population study comprised of Lusaka residents. Lusaka has a total population of 3,042,000 of the year 2022.

### **3.5 Sample size and n techniques**

Population sample is a selection of group of people from a population which gave us true conclusion about the population. Due to large size of the population, population sample becomes ease as the size is small and makes the researcher not to face financial constraints during the research. This study had a sample of 100 people comprising of senior UPND officials namely, party secretary, Lusaka residents from Kabulonga, Kalingalinga, Kamwala, Kabwata and George compound. These are the areas with the highest numbers of UPND members and party officials. I was selecting 5 people from the registered UPND members from an area. Those from the mentioned residential areas, a simply random simple random sampling based on purposive sampling was used to select the required number. Purposive sampling involves purposefully selecting individuals based on specific criteria relevant to the research objectives. In this case, UPND registered members and Lusaka residents were selected to participate in the study because they were likely to be updated with current affairs in the country.

### **3.6 Positionality and reflectivity**

As a student at UNZA and social work practitioner as well as a former of member a UPND Youth Forum with keen interest in politics and advocate for social justice, I explored corruption

in the UPND government from a neutral and non-partisan standpoint reflecting my social work profession. I also engaged in ongoing reflection and self-awareness to recognize any emerging biases and mitigate their impact on the study. Furthermore, I employed methods such as triangulation, peer debriefing, and member checking to validate findings and interpretations. This helped to ensure the reliability and credibility of the research outcomes.

### **3.7 Data collection**

This research study used questionnaires, face to face interviews (Peoples Narratives), newsletters, and published articles for data collection purposes as well as people's experiences in the corruption fight and perception.

### **3.8 Data analysis**

In conducting the data analysis for this study, data was analyzed using simple statistical quantification presented in bar charts, percentages, pie charts while qualitative data was analyzed using thematic analysis. By utilizing both quantitative and qualitative methods, the research aimed to provide a comprehensive understanding of corruption dynamics and anti-corruption strategies under the UPND government in Zambia. This approach allowed for triangulation of findings, enhancing the credibility and validity of the study results.

Furthermore, citing Cooper and Schindler (2006) in their book "Business Research Methods," highlights the rationale behind using mixed methods, emphasizing the advantages of integrating quantitative and qualitative approaches to gain a more complete understanding of research phenomena. This citation strengthens the methodological justification for the chosen approach and demonstrates critical reflection on the part of the researcher.

### **3.9 Ethical consideration**

This research made the following ethical considerations as highlighted by Kombo and Tromp (2007):

### **3.9.1 Validity of the research**

The research that was conducted answered the research question “what are the levels of corruption in the United National Development (UPND) new dawn government in Zambia. And the research conclusion will match with the research question.

#### **3.9.1.1 Research methods to be used in the research**

The study used a mixed method approach.

### **3.9.2 Consent of participants**

The participants were informed regarding the activities of the research. This let participants make an informed consent for them to take part in the research before the research work. Participates will be entitled to information about the purpose of the research, the funders of the research and the expected results of the research.

### **3.9.3 Confidentiality**

The information that was provided by the participants was treated with high degree of confidentiality. The information will not be accessed by anyone else except the research under no circumstances. In addition, identity of the participants will not be revealed in the research.

### **3.9.4 Participant’s risk**

During the research, if it is discovered that the risk for the participants is greater than the benefit then the research was going to be abandoned.

### **3.9.5 Participants sampling**

The researcher sampled out students, civil servants and lecturers as participants under study. This is because these groups are learned and have an idea of the topic under study.

### **3.9.6 Transparency and integrity**

Transparency and honest was exhibited during the research. Participants were made known of all the information that they will need to know.

### **3.10 Value of the research**

The findings of this research will assist interested stakeholders such as the government, anti-corruption watch dogs, NGO's and the general public to make wise decisions which are in favor of the fight against corruption.

To the Government: The research will be beneficial to the government in that it will know its stance on corruption and whether public institutions are following what it is preaching that is the fighting against corruption or not. In addition, if the findings reveal that the not much effort is being put in the fight against corruption, the government will provide needed resources to assist in the fight against corruption.

To the Anti-corruption watchdogs: The findings of the research will assist the anti-corruption watchdogs such as the ACC or DEC to notice where corruption is likely to take place hence it will give fear to people intends practice corruption knowing the fact that sooner nor later they will be caught.

NGOs: The findings of the research will motivate NGOs to put pressure on the government so that it intensifies the fight against corruption. On the other hand, NGO's may come on board and assist the government by providing resources which will help in the fight against corruption.

General public: The general public will benefit greatly from the findings of this research. For instance, if the findings come out positive, the general public will gain trust from the government hence giving them proper reasons why they changed Government.

Investors: Just like the general public, investor confidence will either increase or decrease depending on the finding. If findings come out positive, investor confidence will increase in the current Government hence more foreign exchange will be deposited in the country hence we will witness the appreciation of the local currency hence low cost of doing business in the country. On the other hand, if the findings come negative investor confidence will decrease as result investors will pull out their money from the economy as they will not have trust in government due to high levels of corruption hence local currency will depreciate and cost of doing business will go up.

## **CHAPTER FOUR: PRESENTATION OF RESEARCH FINDINGS**

This chapter presents findings on the levels of corruption in the UPND new dawn government in Lusaka District. This chapter presents findings using interviews and statistical quantification. Bar charts, tables and pie charts were used for easy interpretation of data. The research questions were answered through interviews.

### **4.1 Background Information**

The selected variables—age, marital status, level of education, and income per month—offered valuable insights into corruption within the UPND government in Lusaka. Age influences attitudes towards corruption, with younger individuals potentially more susceptible due to inexperience and financial pressures, while older individuals may have greater ethical considerations. Marital status reflects socio-economic status and social networks, affecting susceptibility to corruption. Education correlates with awareness and access to opportunities, with higher education potentially reducing propensity for corruption. Income directly influences financial incentives and motivations for corrupt behavior, with higher incomes potentially mitigating the need for corruption. Conversely, lower incomes may incentivize corruption to supplement earnings. Analyzing these variables provides a nuanced understanding of corruption dynamics and vulnerabilities within the UPND government.

#### 4.1.1 Age

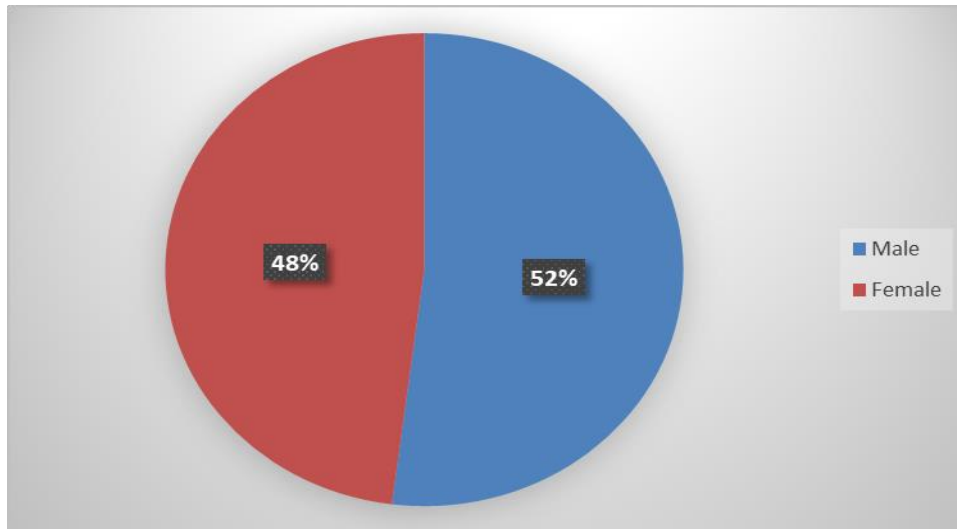
**Table 1: Distribution of respondents by age**

| Age      | Frequency | Percent |
|----------|-----------|---------|
| Below 20 | 15        | 15      |
| 21-30    | 21        | 21      |
| 31-40    | 52        | 52      |
| 41-50    | 12        | 12      |
| Total    | 100       | 100     |

Table 1 above shows that majority of the respondents 52% were between 31-40 years of age, 15% were below 20 years, 21% were in the 21-30 age group, and only 12% were in the age group of 41-50 years. The statistical significance of these figures during the interview with the respondents shows that 31-40 years of age representing 52% agree that there are high levels of corruption in the UPND government in Lusaka District.

#### 4.1.2 Sex

**Figure 1: Sex of Respondents**



Pie chart

A significant majority of the respondents 52% were males while 48% were females as indicated in Figure 1 above. This proves that more males than females engaged in corruption in the new dawn government.

#### 4.1.3 Marital Status

**Table 2: Distribution of respondents by marital status**

| Marital Status | Frequency | Percent |
|----------------|-----------|---------|
| Single         | 40        | 40      |
| Married        | 58        | 58      |
| Divorced       | 2         | 2       |
| Widowed        | 0         | 0       |
| Total          | 100       | 100     |

On marital status, majority of the respondents 58% were married while those who were single were 40% and only a small proportion 2% were divorced as shown in Table 4.2 above. None of the respondents were widowed.



#### 4.1.4 Education Level

**Table 3: Distribution of respondents by education level**

| Level     | Frequency | Percent |
|-----------|-----------|---------|
| Primary   | 25        | 25      |
| Secondary | 44        | 44      |
| Tertiary  | 31        | 31      |
| Total     | 100       | 100     |

As shown in Table 3 above, a significant majority 44% of the respondents had attained secondary education, 31% had tertiary education while only 25% had primary education.

#### 4.1.5 Income per month

**Table 4 Distribution of respondents by income**

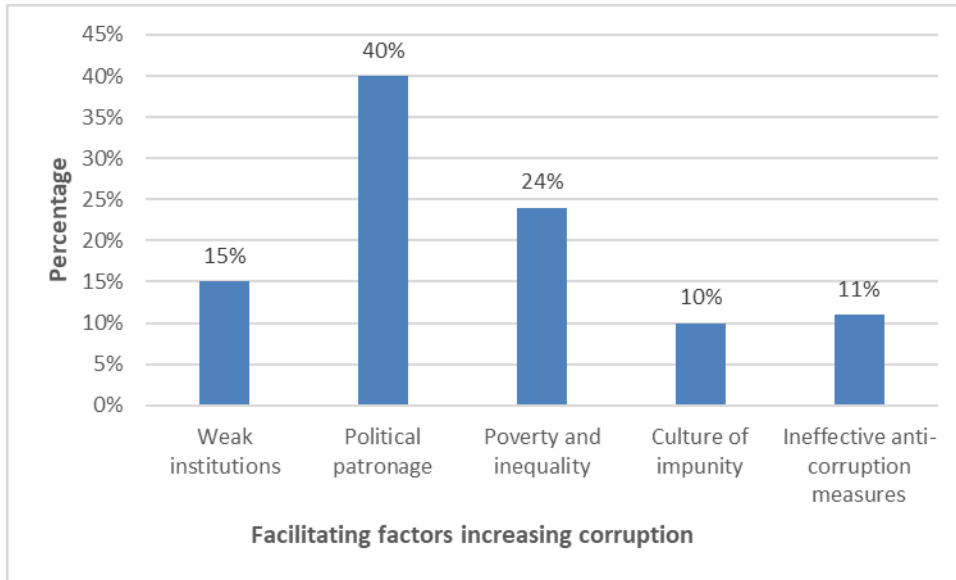
| Income                  | Frequency | Percent |
|-------------------------|-----------|---------|
| Below K1000             | 27        | 27      |
| Between K1000 and K2000 | 39        | 39      |
| Between K2000 and K4000 | 22        | 22      |
| Above K4000             | 12        | 12      |
| Total                   | 100       | 100     |

As shown in Table 4 above, a significant majority of the respondents 39% had a monthly income of between K1000 and K2000, 27% were below K1000, and 22% were between K2000 and K4000. A minority of the respondents 12% had a monthly income of above K4000.

#### 4.2 Facilitating factors that increase corruption in the UPND new dawn government

The study sought to establish facilitating factors that increase corruption in the new dawn government. The categories of the responses were arrived at based on the common responses provided by the respondents through use of themes. Below were the responses from the respondent as shown in Figure 2 below:

**Figure 2: Facilitating factor that increase corruption**



Findings in Figure 2 above indicate the majority of the respondents said that political patronage was the major factor contributing to the increase in corruption in the UPND new dawn government, 24% said poverty and inequality, 15% said weak institutions, and 11% said ineffective anti-corruption measures. A minority 10% of the respondents indicated a culture of impunity among public officials as a facilitating factor increasing corruption in the UPND new dawn government.

Key informants comprising top management in the civil service, ACC top management and lecturers, gave following views regarding facilitating factors that increase corruption in the UPND new dawn government:

## **Lack of Transparency**

Transparency refers to the openness and accessibility of government activities, decisions, and transactions to the public and relevant oversight bodies. When transparency is lacking corrupt practices can occur behind closed doors without public scrutiny. Citizens and watchdog organizations have difficulty tracking government expenditures and holding officials accountable. Whistleblowers are less likely to come forward due to fear of retaliation. One key informant indicated that:

*“Transparency is crucial to combat corruption. In the absence of clear and open government activities, it is much easier for corrupt practices to take root and go unnoticed. This causes the nation to lose colossal sums of money that could be channeled to key development initiatives aimed propelling Zambia’s national development”*

## **Weak Institutions:**

Strong institutions are vital for maintaining the rule of law and preventing corruption. When institutions are weak or compromised. Oversight bodies, such as anti-corruption agencies and audit offices, may be unable to effectively monitor government activities. Law enforcement agencies may lack the capacity or independence to investigate and prosecute corruption cases. Accountability mechanisms are undermined, allowing corruption to flourish without consequences. One key informant reiterated that:

*"When institutions responsible for oversight and accountability are compromised or lack the necessary resources, corruption can thrive. Effective institutions are essential to keep corruption in check."*

## **Political Patronage:**

Political patronage involves politicians granting favors, positions, contracts, or resources to their supporters or allies, often in exchange for loyalty or political support. This can lead to corruption in several ways. Unqualified individuals may be appointed to positions, leading to inefficiency and misuse of public resources. Contracts and resources may be awarded based on political

connections rather than merit. Public servants may prioritize loyalty over public interest, perpetuating corruption. One key informant noted that:

*"Political patronage can create a breeding ground for corruption. When politicians use their influence to reward their allies with government positions or contracts, it can lead to favoritism and unethical practices that breed corruption and rob the nation of resources that truly champion the national development agenda."*

### **Inadequate Anti-Corruption Measures:**

Effective anti-corruption measures, including laws, regulations, and enforcement mechanisms, are essential for deterring corrupt behavior. Inadequate measures on the other hand, create a permissive environment where individuals may engage in corrupt practices with impunity. They fail to provide clear guidelines for ethical behavior and consequences for corrupt acts. They do not encourage reporting or whistleblowing due to lack of protection for informants. A key informant echoed that:

*"Anti-corruption measures, such as robust laws, regulations, and enforcement mechanisms, are essential in the fight against corruption. Inadequate measures leave room for corruption to flourish."*

### **Poverty and Inequality:**

Poverty and economic inequality can create conditions that push individuals towards corrupt activities. People facing economic hardship may resort to corruption as a means of survival or improving their standard of living. In unequal societies, individuals may perceive corruption as a way to access resources and opportunities that would otherwise be denied to them. Corruption can exacerbate poverty and inequality by diverting resources away from essential services and development projects. One key informant indicated that:

*"High levels of poverty and inequality can drive individuals to engage in corrupt practices as a means of meeting their basic needs. Addressing social and economic disparities is a key component of reducing corruption."*

Addressing corruption requires comprehensive strategies that target these facilitating factors. These strategies include promoting transparency, strengthening institutions, enacting and enforcing effective anti-corruption laws, addressing economic disparities, and fostering a culture of accountability.

### 4.3 Magnitude of corruption in the UPND government

The study sought to explore the levels of corruption in the UPND government. Key informants comprised top management in the civil service, ACC top management and lecturers. Below were the responses:

**Figure 3: Extent of corruption**

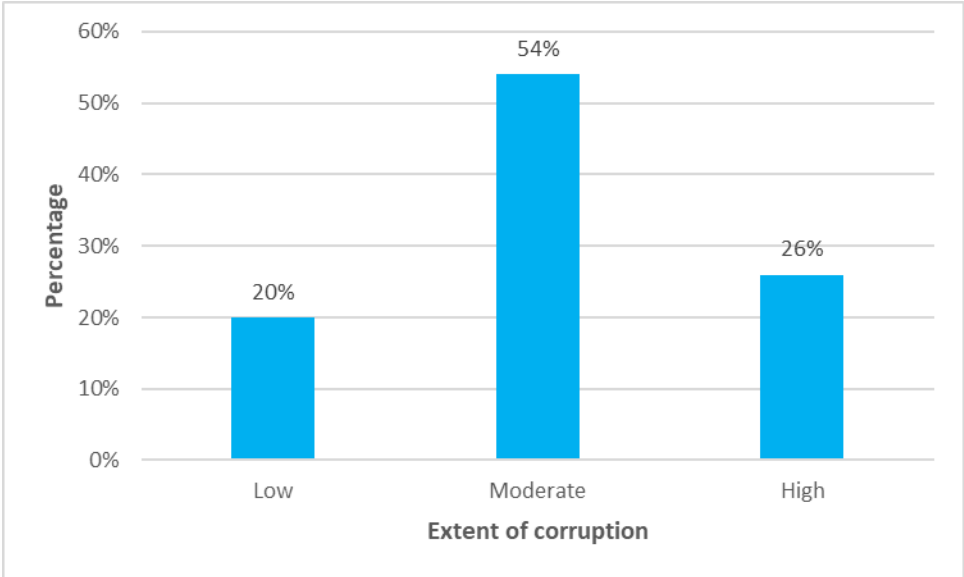


Figure 3 above indicates that the majority of the respondents 54% felt that the extent of corruption in the UPND new dawn government was moderate, 20% felt it was low and 26% indicated that it was high.

Views from key informants indicated that corruption was low in the UPND government. Key informants indicated that corruption was low in the UPND government due to stringent anti-corruption measures put in place by the government. Government has taken specific actions to combat corruption effectively. Below are some of the measures the UPND government has taken.

## **Clear Legal Framework**

Stringent anti-corruption measures typically involve the establishment and enforcement of clear and comprehensive legal frameworks. The government has enacted laws that define corrupt practices, specify penalties, and establish mechanisms for reporting and investigating corruption. One respondent indicated:

*"A strong legal framework is the backbone of an effective anti-corruption strategy. Laws that clearly define what constitutes corruption and specify the consequences send a powerful deterrent message."*

## **Independent Anti-Corruption Agencies**

Effective anti-corruption efforts often include the creation of independent anti-corruption agencies or commissions. These bodies are responsible for investigating and prosecuting corruption cases without political interference. One respondent reiterated that:

*"Having independent anti-corruption agencies is pivotal. They can operate free from political influence, which is essential for holding those involved in corruption accountable."*

## **Whistleblower Protection:**

A key component of anti-corruption measures is providing protection and incentives for whistleblowers. When individuals feel safe reporting corruption, it becomes easier to uncover and address corrupt practices. The UPND government has reiterated this to be very important in the fight against corruption. One key informant indicated that:

*"Whistleblower protection is a linchpin of anti-corruption efforts. It empowers individuals to step forward and expose corruption, ultimately making it harder for corrupt actors to operate in the shadows."*

## **Transparency and Accountability:**

The UPND government is promoting initiatives to enhance transparency and accountability in government operations. This can involve publishing government budgets, expenditures, and

contracts, making them accessible to the public and oversight bodies. One respondent indicated that:

*"Transparency is the enemy of corruption. When government operations are open to scrutiny, it becomes more challenging for corruption to thrive, and the public can hold officials accountable."*

### **Enhanced Oversight**

Strengthening oversight mechanisms within government institutions has helped to prevent corruption. This involves reforms in procurement processes, financial management, and public administration to reduce opportunities for corruption. One respondent noted that:

*"Enhanced oversight acts as a safeguard. It ensures that government resources are used efficiently and ethically, minimizing the risk of corruption."*

### **Regular Audits and Reviews:**

Stringent anti-corruption measures involve regular audits and reviews of government activities and finances by independent bodies. These audits help identify irregularities and hold officials accountable. One respondent indicated that:

*"Regular audits are a check and balance. They help uncover any hidden corruption, ensuring that government officials remain accountable."*

### **4.4 Review of the current strategies in the fight against corruption under the UPND government**

The study sought to review the current strategies in the fight against corruption under the UPND government. Key informants comprised top management in the civil service, ACC top management and lecturers. When respondents were asked what were the strategies employed by the UPND government in the fight against corruption the following were the responses:

**Table 5 Current strategies in the fight against corruption**

| <b>Current Strategies</b> | <b>Frequency</b> | <b>Percent</b> |
|---------------------------|------------------|----------------|
| Regular audit and reviews | 37               | 37             |
| Ethical leadership        | 48               | 48             |
| Asset recovery            | 2                | 2              |
| Whistle blower protection | 9                | 9              |
| Education and awareness   | 4                | 4              |
| Total                     | 100              | 100            |

Study findings as indicated in Table 5 above revealed that the majority of the respondents 48% said that the promotion of ethical leadership was the major strategy being used by the new dawn government to fight corruption in Zambia, 37% said regular audits and reviews, 9% said whistleblower protection and 4% education and awareness. A minority 2% of the respondents said asset recovery was a strategy used by the UPND government to fight corruption. From the statistics above, it shows that despite the promotion of ethical leadership in government under the UPND government this had done little to curb the high levels of corruption in government as leaders continued to embezzle funds and engage in various corrupt schemes to enrich themselves.

Views from key informants indicated that the new dawn has restored the Anti-Corruption Commission (ACC), an independent body responsible for investigating and prosecuting corruption cases to its original mandate operating with a degree of autonomy to reduce political interference.

Whistleblower Protection has been used a means to fight corruption under the new dawn government. Zambia provides legal protection for whistleblowers who report corruption, encouraging individuals to come forward without fear of retaliation. The Protected Disclosures Act offers safeguards to whistleblowers. One key informant noted that:



*"Zambia has made commendable progress in protecting whistleblowers under the UPND new dawn government. The Protected Disclosures Act provides legal safeguards for those who come forward with information about corruption. This protection is crucial in creating a safe environment for whistleblowers to expose corrupt practices."*

The Zambian government has taken steps to promote transparency in its operations. It publishes budget information, government expenditures, and contracts, making them accessible to the public and oversight bodies in order to end corrupt practices in government. One respondent indicated that:

*"The Zambian government's commitment to transparency is evident. Publishing budget details, government expenditures, and contracts allows citizens and oversight bodies to scrutinize government operations. Transparency is a powerful tool in the fight against corruption."*

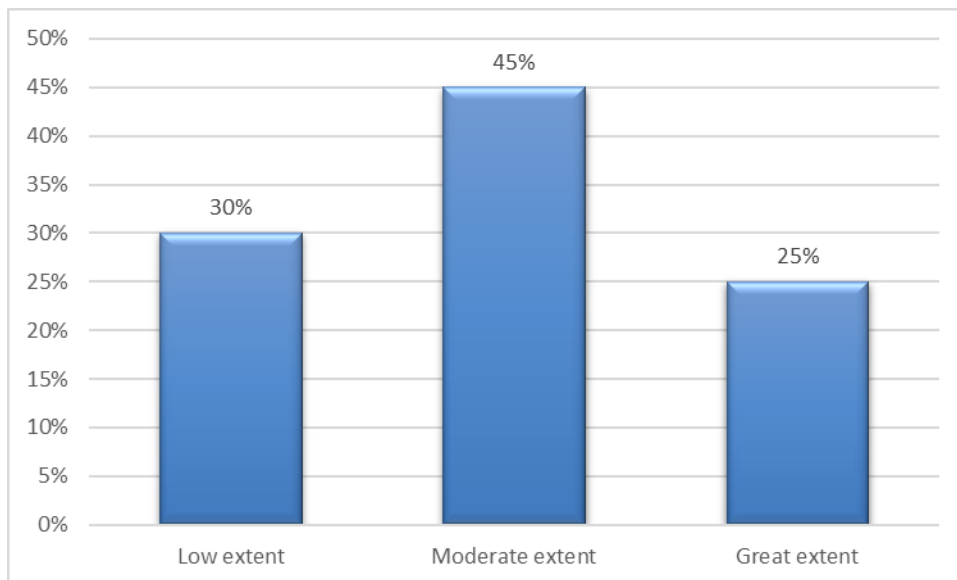
The government has worked on strengthening oversight mechanisms within government institutions, including reforms in procurement processes, financial management, and public administration to minimize corruption risks. One respondent noted that:

*"Enhancing oversight mechanisms is essential for reducing corruption risks. Zambia's efforts to reform procurement, financial management, and public administration are steps in the right direction. These reforms help ensure that public resources are used efficiently and ethically."*

Zambia engages in international cooperation and partnerships with organizations such as the United Nations and the African Union to strengthen its anti-corruption efforts and access technical assistance and support. One respondent said that:

*"International cooperation is vital in the global fight against corruption. Zambia's partnerships with organizations like the United Nations and the African Union demonstrate a commitment to strengthening anti-corruption efforts. These partnerships provide access to expertise and technical assistance, which is crucial for success."*

**Figure 4: Extent to which current strategies to fight corruption are effective**



Findings from Figure 4 above indicate that the majority of the 45% said that the current strategies to fight corruption under the UPND new dawn government were effective to a moderate extent, 30% said low extent and 25% said to a great extent.

Key informants felt that current strategies to fight corruption are effective to a great extent in Zambia under the UPND (United Party for National Development) government, based on general principles and good practices in anti-corruption efforts. The UPND government have demonstrated a strong commitment to good governance, ethical leadership, and transparency, setting a positive tone for anti-corruption efforts. Revisions and improvements to anti-corruption laws and regulations have been enacted to provide a robust legal foundation for anti-corruption measures. One respondent indicated that:

*"The strengthened legal framework in Zambia is a significant achievement. It ensures that there are clear rules and penalties in place to combat corruption effectively. This framework leaves no room for ambiguity."*

They further reiterated that the independence and effectiveness of the Anti-Corruption Commission (ACC) might have been reinforced, allowing it to carry out its duties without

political interference. Adequate legal protections for whistleblowers may have been put in place, encouraging individuals to report corruption without fear of retaliation. One respondent indicated that:

*"The ACC's independence is a cornerstone of Zambia's anti-corruption efforts. It operates without fear or favor, holding both high-ranking and low-ranking officials accountable. This autonomy is essential for its effectiveness."*

Another one said that:

*"Zambia's commitment to whistleblower protection is commendable. The safeguards in place provide reassurance to those who come forward with vital information about corruption. This protection is crucial in the fight against corruption."*

The government's commitment to transparency has resulted in the regular publication of budget information, government expenditures, and contracts, fostering public scrutiny and accountability.

#### **4.4.1 Challenges in the fight against corruption in Zambia**

The study endeavored to identify challenges in the fight against corruption in Zambia. Key informants comprised top management in the civil service, ACC top management and lecturers.

Below were the responses from the respondents:

**Table 6 Challenges faced in the fight against corruption**

| <b>Challenges</b>                     | <b>Frequency</b> | <b>Percent</b> |
|---------------------------------------|------------------|----------------|
| Political interference                | 40               | 40             |
| Lack of funding and resources         | 44               | 44             |
| High levels of poverty and inequality | 3                | 3              |
| Whistle blower vulnerability          | 8                | 8              |
| Lack of education and awareness       | 5                | 5              |
| Total                                 | 100              | 100            |

From the Table 6 above the majority of the majority of the respondents said lack of funding and resources was the major challenge faced in the fight against corruption in Zambia, 40% said political interference, 8% said whistle blower vulnerability and 5% said lack of education and awareness. A minority 3% of the respondents said high levels of poverty and inequality were major challenges faced in the fight against corruption.

Key informant gave views similar to the respondents. Corruption often thrives when there is political interference in anti-corruption agencies and investigations. Political leaders may protect or shield corrupt officials from prosecution, undermining the independence and effectiveness of anti-corruption efforts. One respondent indicated that:

*"One of the major hurdles we face in the fight against corruption is political interference. Some political leaders may shield corrupt officials from facing the consequences of their actions. This interference compromises the independence of our anti-corruption agencies and weakens our efforts."*

Lack of funding and resources present another challenge in the fight against corruption in Zambia. Adequate funding and resources are essential for anti-corruption agencies and initiatives to function effectively. Limited budgets can hinder investigations, prosecutions, and public awareness campaigns. One respondent observed that:

*"Insufficient funding and resources pose significant challenges. Our anti-corruption agencies often operate on shoestring budgets, which impacts the scope and quality of our work. We need more resources to effectively combat corruption."*

Additionally, complex legal processes are also another hurdle in fighting corruption in Zambia. The legal processes involved in investigating and prosecuting corruption cases can be complex and time-consuming. This can lead to delays and challenges in securing convictions, allowing some corrupt individuals to escape justice. One key informant observed that:

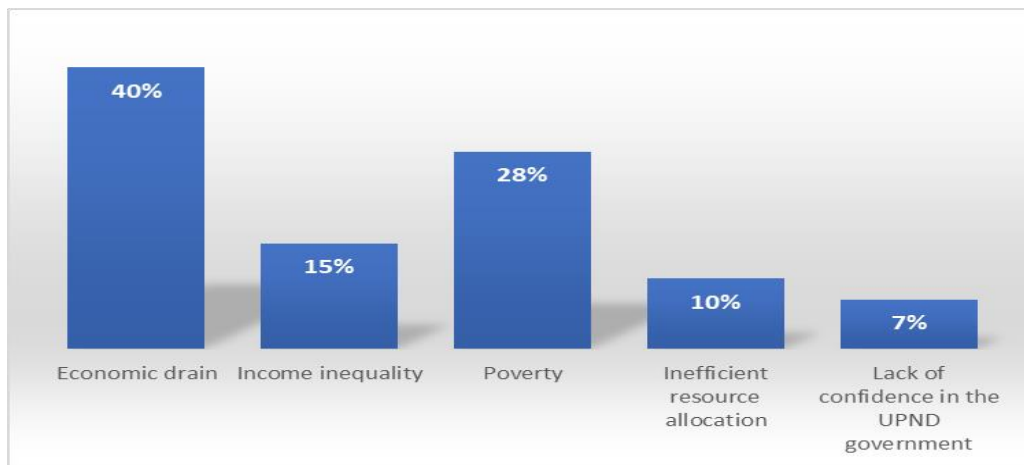
*"The legal processes in corruption cases can be incredibly complex and lengthy. This often leads to delays in securing convictions. Some corrupt individuals*

*exploit these complexities to escape justice, which is frustrating for our efforts to combat corruption."*

#### **4.4.2 Socio-economic and cultural effects of corruption in governance in Zambia**

Corruption in Zambia has significant socio-economic and cultural effects that influence various aspects of society. These effects can be detrimental to the country's development, social fabric, and cultural values. Below are some of the key socio-economic and cultural effects of corruption in Zambia based on responses from respondents:

**Figure 5: Socio-economic effects of corruption in Zambia**



Study findings in Figure 5 above indicate that the majority of the respondents 40% said that economic drain was the major effect of corruption in Zambia, 28% said poverty, 15% said income inequality and 10% said corruption leads to inefficient resource allocation. A minority 7% of the respondents said corruption leads to lack of confidence in the UPND government by the citizens.

**Figure 6: Cultural effect of corruption in Zambia**

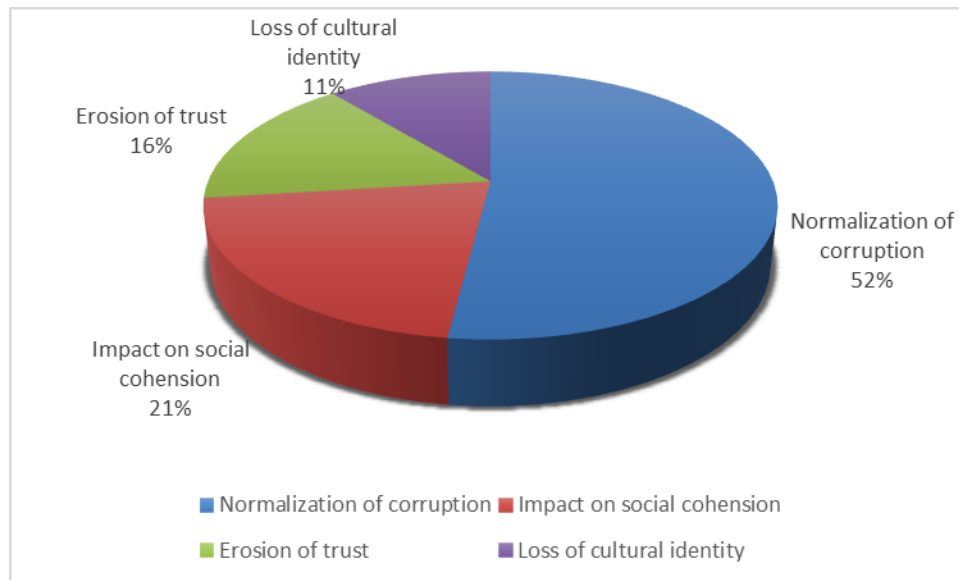


Figure 6 above indicates that the majority of the respondents 52% said that normalization of corruption was a major cultural effect of corruption in Zambia, 21% said impact on social cohesion, and 16% said erosion of trust. A minority 11% said loss of cultural identity was a cultural effect of corruption in Zambia.

Key informants gave views similar to respondents regarding the socio-economic and cultural effects of corruption in Zambia. On the socio-economic effects they indicated that corruption diverts public funds and resources away from critical sectors like healthcare, education, and infrastructure development. This economic drain hampers Zambia's economic growth and development. One key informant noted that:

*"Corruption is like a leaky faucet draining our economic resources. Money meant for crucial sectors like healthcare and education ends up in the wrong hands, stalling our development."*

Corruption exacerbates income inequality by diverting resources that could be used for poverty alleviation and social welfare programs. The gap between the rich and the poor widens as a result. The diversion of resources due to corruption can hinder poverty reduction efforts.

Vulnerable populations often bear the brunt of corruption's impact, leading to persistent poverty in some areas. One respondent opined that:

*"Corruption doesn't just steal money; it steals opportunities. The persistent diversion of resources due to corruption leaves vulnerable populations trapped in a cycle of poverty."*

Corruption distorts the allocation of resources, leading to inefficient public spending. Money and resources may be directed towards projects with kickbacks rather than those with the greatest societal benefit. The perception of corruption can deter foreign investors and businesses from operating in Zambia. This can hinder economic diversification, job creation, and overall economic stability. One respondent indicated that:

*"the perception of corruption drives away foreign investors. Our economy suffers as we miss out on opportunities for diversification, job creation, and economic stability."*

On cultural effects of corruption in Zambia, key informants indicated that pervasive corruption can lead to the normalization of unethical behavior within society. People may come to accept corruption as a standard practice, eroding traditional values of honesty and integrity. One respondent reiterated that:

*"corruption has become a norm in our society. It's disheartening to witness the erosion of traditional values of honesty and integrity as unethical behavior becomes accepted."*

Widespread corruption erodes public trust in government institutions, officials, and even traditional leadership. Citizens may become disillusioned and less engaged in civic activities. Corruption can undermine cultural values that prioritize honesty, integrity, and communal well-being. It may promote a culture of self-interest and disregard for the common good. One respondent observed that:

*"corruption undermines the very values that have defined our culture for generations. It promotes self-interest over communal well-being, and this shift in mindset is alarming."*

Corruption can lead to social fragmentation as people become distrustful of one another and the institutions that are supposed to protect their interests. This weakens social cohesion and solidarity. One respondent made the following observation:

*"As corruption spreads, so does mistrust among our people. We're witnessing social fragmentation as individuals become increasingly distrustful of one another and our institutions."*



## **CHAPTER FIVE: DISCUSSION OF FINDINGS**

### **5.1 Introduction**

This chapter presents a discussion on research findings. Findings are on an exploration of corruption in the UPND new dawn government in Lusaka District. Corruption, a pervasive and corrosive malady, has long been a subject of concern in the realm of governance, transcending international borders and infiltrating the corridors of power across the globe. In Lusaka District, Zambia, a nation with its own share of challenges and triumphs, the inauguration of the UPND (United Party for National Development) New Dawn Government was heralded as a beacon of hope, promising a new era of transparency, accountability, and good governance. However, as time has passed, concerns have arisen, and voices of dissent have grown louder, suggesting that the flicker of this new dawn may be dimmed by the spectre of corruption.

### **5.2 Facilitating factors that increase corruption in the UPND new dawn government**

The study sought to establish facilitating factors that increase corruption in the new dawn government. Findings from the study as indicated in Figure 2 revealed that the majority of the respondents said that political patronage was the major factor contributing to the increase in corruption in the UPND new dawn government, 24% said poverty and inequality, 15% said weak institutions, and 11% said ineffective anti-corruption measures. A minority 10% of the respondents indicated a culture of impunity among public officials as a facilitating factor increasing corruption in the UPND new dawn government. Key informants also stressed similar views lack of transparency which refers to the openness and accessibility of government activities, decisions, and transactions to the public and relevant oversight bodies. They also indicated weak institution in relation to oversight bodies, such as anti-corruption agencies and audit offices, may be unable to effectively monitor government activities and political patronage as a factor increasing corruption in the UPND new dawn government.

These findings are in line with Treisman (2000) who opined that social and economic heterogeneity is also an indirect determinant of the probability of corrupt acts being caught. For example, ethnical fractionalization is believed to promote corruption since corrupt officials may be protected by their own ethnic groups for political reasons.

Treisman's findings and the study's results regarding the factors contributing to corruption in the UPND new dawn government in Zambia align in several key ways, shedding light on the complex dynamics at play. Treisman's findings, as well as the study's results, highlight the significant role of political patronage in increasing corruption. Political leaders using their influence to reward supporters or allies with government positions or contracts can create a fertile ground for corrupt practices. It can lead to a situation where loyalty to the ruling party is more valued than competence and ethical conduct, fostering corruption. Both Treisman's research and the study's findings underscore the impact of poverty and inequality on corruption. High levels of poverty and inequality can drive individuals to engage in corrupt practices as a means to meet their basic needs or improve their economic situation. Additionally, the perception of inequality and injustice can erode trust in the government and institutions, potentially increasing corruption.

Weak institutions, as indicated by both sources, contribute to corruption. Ineffective oversight bodies and institutions responsible for monitoring government activities create an environment where corrupt acts can go unchecked. Strengthening these institutions is crucial for combating corruption effectively. The study's findings align with Treisman's research, emphasizing that ineffective anti-corruption measures can exacerbate corruption. When laws, regulations, and enforcement mechanisms lack teeth or are not consistently applied, corrupt individuals may believe they can act with impunity, increasing corrupt practices.

While the study's results indicate a minority view on the culture of impunity, it is in line with Treisman's perspective. A culture where public officials believe they won't be held accountable for their corrupt actions can embolden corrupt behaviour (Mauro, 1995). Addressing this culture of impunity is essential in the fight against corruption. Treisman's research introduces the concept of ethnic fractionalization as a factor influencing corruption. This refers to the division of society along ethnic lines, which can impact corruption dynamics. Corrupt officials from a particular ethnic group may be shielded or protected by their own group for political reasons, making it challenging to hold them accountable.

In summary, both the study's findings and Treisman's research highlight the multifaceted nature of corruption and the interplay of various factors in its perpetuation. Addressing corruption in the

UPND new dawn government in Zambia requires a holistic approach that includes strengthening institutions, addressing poverty and inequality, and promoting transparency and accountability while considering the impact of political patronage and ethnic fractionalization.

### **5.3 Magnitude of corruption in the UPND government**

The study sought to explore the levels of corruption in the UPND government. Findings from Figure 3 above indicated that the majority of the respondents 58% felt that there was corruption in the UPND government while 42% felt that there was no corruption in the UPND new dawn government. Additionally, Figure 4 above indicates that the majority of the respondents 54% felt that the extent of corruption in the UPND new dawn government was moderate, 20% felt it was low and 26% indicated that it was high. Views from key informants indicated that corruption was low in the UPND government. Key informants indicated that corruption was low in the UPND government due to stringent anti-corruption measures put in place by the government. Government has taken specific actions to combat corruption effectively by providing clear legal framework to fight corruption, whistle blower protection, enhanced oversight, independent anti-corruption agencies among other things.

The above findings are line with the findings of the 2008 Corruption Perception Index (CPI) report which indicated that corruption in Zambia was high referring to former president Chiluba was acquitted of embezzling public funds in a Zambian court in August 2009; this, despite the fact that Chiluba had been found liable for defrauding GRZ of US\$46 million (GBP 23 million) by a UK civil court two years before.

The study's findings on corruption perceptions within the UPND government provide valuable insights into public opinion, while the reference to the 2008 CPI report underscores historical challenges related to corruption in Zambia. Addressing corruption requires a multi-faceted approach, including legal reforms, oversight strengthening, and public awareness campaigns to promote a culture of transparency and accountability.

#### **5.4 Review of the current strategies in the fight against corruption under the UPND government**

The study sought to review the current strategies in the fight against corruption under the UPND government. Study findings as indicated in Table 5 revealed that the majority of the respondents 48% said that the promotion of ethical leadership was the major strategy being used by the new dawn government to fight corruption in Zambia, 37% said regular audits and reviews, 9% said whistleblower protection and 4% education and awareness. A minority 2% of the respondents said asset recovery was a strategy used by the UPND government to fight corruption.

Views from key informants indicated that the new dawn has restored the Anti-Corruption Commission (ACC), an independent body responsible for investigating and prosecuting corruption cases to its original mandate operating with a degree of autonomy to reduce political interference. Whistleblower Protection has been used as a means to fight corruption under the new dawn government. Zambia provides legal protection for whistleblowers who report corruption, encouraging individuals to come forward without fear of retaliation. The Protected Disclosures Act offers safeguards to whistleblowers. The Zambian government has taken steps to promote transparency in its operations. It publishes budget information, government expenditures, and contracts, making them accessible to the public and oversight bodies in order to end corrupt practices in government.

The above findings are in line with Banda (2021) findings in his study on the effectiveness of measures to fight corruption under the new dawn government who highlighted that Zambia implemented public education campaigns to raise awareness about the detrimental effects of corruption and the importance of reporting corrupt practices. These campaigns aimed to inform citizens about their rights and responsibilities in fighting corruption. Additionally, Zambia recognized the importance of protecting individuals who reported corruption. Whistleblower protection mechanisms were put in place to ensure that those who exposed corrupt practices were safe from retaliation. These mechanisms often included measures to maintain the confidentiality of whistleblowers' identities and provisions for legal protection.

#### **5.4.1 Challenges in the fight against corruption in Zambia**

The study endeavoured to identify challenges in the fight against corruption in Zambia. From the Table 6 the majority of the majority of the respondents said lack of funding and resources was the major challenge faced in the fight against corruption in Zambia, 40% said political interference, 8% said whistle blower vulnerability and 5% said lack of education and awareness. A minority 3% of the respondents said high levels of poverty and inequality were major challenges faced in the fight against corruption.

Key informant gave views similar to the respondents. Corruption often thrives when there is political interference in anti-corruption agencies and investigations. Political leaders may protect or shield corrupt officials from prosecution, undermining the independence and effectiveness of anti-corruption efforts. Lack of funding and resources present another challenge in the fight against corruption in Zambia. Adequate funding and resources are essential for anti-corruption agencies and initiatives to function effectively. Limited budgets can hinder investigations, prosecutions, and public awareness campaigns.

Additionally, complex legal processes are also another hurdle in fighting corruption in Zambia. The legal processes involved in investigating and prosecuting corruption cases can be complex and time-consuming. This can lead to delays and challenges in securing convictions, allowing some corrupt individuals to escape justice.

The above findings are in line with Maiga (2023) study on fighting corruption in developing countries to meet the challenge of human capital development: evidence from sub-Saharan African countries. This study provides both theoretical and empirical evidence on the need to consider institutions in human capital development in Sub-Saharan African (SSA) countries. In a model of human capital accumulation with public expenditure where he includes a corruption parameter, it is found that when a bureaucrat or any other agent takes away part of the amount allocated to education or health, he reduces the quantity and quality of public services. Moreover, an estimation with the generalized moment method in system on panel data of 35 countries covering the period 1996–2018, the results show on the one hand that corruption manages to reduce the output of education and the average duration of studies and life expectancy of citizens through its negative effect on public spending in the education and health

sector. On the other hand, corruption has a direct and negative impact on the performance of education. Indeed, it creates a lack of motivation in learning and in plans to pursue higher education because the return is very low, as is access to health and education services. In addition, corruption also distorts the allocation of public expenditure in favor of military, transport, mining, energy, and fuel expenditure as opposed to health and education expenditure. The effectiveness of governments in combating corruption is fundamental to human capital accumulation in Sub-Saharan African countries.

#### **5.4.2 Socio-economic and cultural effects of corruption in governance in Zambia**

Corruption in Zambia has significant socio-economic and cultural effects that influence various aspects of society. These effects can be detrimental to the country's development, social fabric, and cultural values. Below are some of the key socio-economic and cultural effects of corruption in Zambia based on responses from respondents:

Study findings in Figure 5 above indicate that the majority of the respondents 47% said that economic drain was the major effect of corruption in Zambia, 28% said poverty and 15% said income inequality. A minority 10% of the respondents said corruption leads to inefficient resource allocation in the country.

Figure 6 above indicates that the majority of the respondents 52% said that normalization of corruption was a major cultural effect of corruption in Zambia, 21% said impact on social cohesion, and 16% said erosion of trust. A minority 11% said loss of cultural identity was a cultural effect of corruption in Zambia.

Key informants gave views similar to respondents regarding the socio-economic and cultural effects of corruption in Zambia. On the socio-economic effects they indicated that corruption diverts public funds and resources away from critical sectors like healthcare, education, and infrastructure development. This economic drain hampers Zambia's economic growth and development. Corruption exacerbates income inequality by diverting resources that could be used for poverty alleviation and social welfare programs. The gap between the rich and the poor widens as a result. The diversion of resources due to corruption can hinder poverty reduction efforts. Vulnerable populations often bear the brunt of corruption's impact, leading to persistent poverty in some areas

Corruption distorts the allocation of resources, leading to inefficient public spending. Money and resources may be directed towards projects with kickbacks rather than those with the greatest societal benefit. The perception of corruption can deter foreign investors and businesses from operating in Zambia. This can hinder economic diversification, job creation, and overall economic stability.

On cultural effects of corruption in Zambia, key informants indicated that pervasive corruption can lead to the normalization of unethical behavior within society. People may come to accept corruption as a standard practice, eroding traditional values of honesty and integrity.

## CHAPTER SIX: CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

This chapter gives a conclusion and recommendations of the study.

### 6.1 Conclusion

The study on corruption in the UPND new dawn government in Lusaka District, Zambia, has revealed several important findings regarding the state of corruption, contributing factors, strategies to combat corruption, challenges faced, and its socio-economic and cultural effects. These findings shed light on the complex dynamics of corruption in the region and have important implications for anti-corruption efforts.

First, the study found that political patronage is a major facilitating factor contributing to corruption in the UPND new dawn government. This aligns with the research of Treisman (2000), which highlighted the role of social and economic heterogeneity in the probability of corrupt acts being caught. Additionally, the study identified poverty and inequality, weak institutions, ineffective anti-corruption measures, and a culture of impunity as other significant factors contributing to corruption. Addressing these factors is crucial to curbing corruption effectively.

Second, while public perception indicated that there is corruption in the UPND government, key informants suggested that corruption was relatively low due to stringent anti-corruption measures put in place. This dichotomy highlights the need for comprehensive measures to combat corruption while acknowledging the importance of maintaining public trust.

Third, the study revealed that the UPND government has implemented strategies such as promoting ethical leadership, regular audits, whistleblower protection, and transparency initiatives to fight corruption. These strategies align with international best practices and are essential in reducing corrupt practices in government.

Fourth, the study identified challenges in the fight against corruption, including lack of funding and resources, political interference, complex legal processes, and high levels of poverty and inequality. Overcoming these challenges requires increased funding, reduced political interference, and simplification of legal processes.



Lastly, the study highlighted the socio-economic and cultural effects of corruption in Zambia, such as economic drain, income inequality, and the normalization of corruption. These effects have a profound impact on the country's development and cultural values, necessitating efforts to address corruption's negative consequences on society.

## **6.2 Recommendations**

Based on the study's findings, the following recommendations are proposed to address corruption in the UPND government in Lusaka District, Zambia:

(i) **Strengthen Oversight and Institutions:** To combat corruption effectively, it is crucial to strengthen oversight bodies and institutions responsible for monitoring government activities. This includes ensuring that anti-corruption agencies and audit offices operate independently and have the necessary resources to perform their duties.

(ii) **Promote Ethical Leadership:** The government should continue to promote ethical leadership and good governance. Encouraging leaders to prioritize competence and ethical conduct over political loyalty is essential in reducing corrupt practices.

(iii) **Enhance Public Awareness and Whistleblower Protection:** Efforts to raise public awareness about the detrimental effects of corruption should continue. Additionally, whistleblower protection mechanisms should be reinforced to encourage individuals to come forward without fear of retaliation.

(iv) **Address Poverty and Inequality:** To reduce the motivation for corrupt practices, measures to alleviate poverty and reduce income inequality should be prioritized. This can help in curbing corruption driven by economic hardship.

(vi) **Streamline Legal Processes:** Simplify and expedite the legal processes involved in investigating and prosecuting corruption cases. Delays and complex procedures can hinder convictions and should be addressed.

(vii) **Cultural Transformation:** Promote a cultural shift away from the normalization of corruption. Emphasize traditional values of honesty and integrity to counteract the acceptance of corrupt practices in society.

(viii) International Best Practices: Learn from international best practices in combating corruption. Collaboration with organizations like Transparency International and the United Nations can provide valuable insights and support in the fight against corruption.

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## APPENDICES

### Appendix 1: Questionnaire

#### **TOPIC: EXPLORING CORRUPTION IN THE UPND NEW DAWN GOVERNMENT IN LUSAKA DISTRICT, ZAMBIA.**

Dear Respondent

I am a student at the University of Zambia conducting research on the topic above. You have been sampled to help with the investigation. Be rest assured that the information being solicited will be used purely for academic purposes and treated with maximum confidentiality. Your co-operation will be highly appreciated.

#### **INSTRUCTIONS**

1. Do not indicate your name on the questionnaire
2. Please answer all the questions and if you feel you doubt seek clarification from the interviewer
3. Tick the answer that expresses your view as shown
4. Where required write answers in the spaces provided

**Section A: Background Information**

1. Sex of respondent

- 1. Male [ ]
- 2. Female [ ]

2. Age of respondent

- 1. Below 20
- 2. 20-30[ ]
- 3. 31-40[ ]
- 4. 41-50[ ]
- 5. 50 and above [ ]

3. What is your educational level?

- 1. Primary
- 2. Secondary
- 3. Tertiary
- 4. Not educated

**Section B: Factors facilitating corruption in the New Dawn**

4. What do you understand by the term corruption?

.....  
.....  
.....

5. What factors do you think are facilitating corruption in the new dawn government?

.....  
.....  
.....

6. Do you think corruption levels are high in the new dawn government?

- 1. Yes
- 2. No

7. If yes to Q7 what are the levels of corruption in the UPND government?

.....  
.....  
.....  
8. What do you think has increased the levels of corruption in the new dawn government?

.....  
.....  
.....  
9. What are the strategies put in place to fight against corruption under the UPND government?

.....  
.....  
.....  
10. Explain the effectiveness of the strategies put in place to fight against corruption in the new dawn government?

.....  
.....  
.....  
11. What are the effect of corruption on governance in Zambia?

.....  
.....  
.....  
12. What are the challenges in the fight against corruption in Zambia?

Thank You.

## **Appendix 2: Interview Guide**

1. Date of interview.....
2. Place of Interview.....
3. Position held of interviewee.....

- i. What factors facilitate corruption increases in the UPND new dawn government in Zambia?
- ii. What are the strategies in managing corruption reduction by the UPND government?
- iii. How effective are the strategies put in place in fight against corruption under the UPND government?
- iv. What are the effects of corruption on governance in Zambia?
- v. What economic, social and cultural factors are faced in the fight against corruption in Zambia?

## Matrix of Changes

| Section   | Change  |
|---|---|
| <b>Cover Page</b>   | Deleted to the word “new dawn” from the topic.  |
| <b>Chapter One: Introduction</b>  |   |
| Background (Pages 1 to 2)   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Reduced on gray data to feed more objective, peer reviewed articles and writings (academic) to support arguments.</li> <li>- Consistently stated sources of information</li> </ul> |
| Statement of the Problem (Pages 2 to 3)   | Revised to avoid subjective statements and rely on factual data.  |
| Significance of the study and scope (Pages 4 to 6)                                  | Included the significance and scope of the study to explain why the study was carried out   |
| Conceptual Framework (Pages 7 to 8)   | Added the conceptual framework of the study   |
| <b>Chapter Two: Literature Review</b>   |   |
| 2.3 Causes of Corruption (Pages 12 to 14)   | Added empirical studies in improve depth  |
| 2.4 Consequences of corruption (15 to 16)   | Added illustrations to enrich understanding   |
| 2.5 Economic, Cultural and Political Change in combating corruption (Page 17 to 18) | <p>Stated abbreviations in full</p> <p>Consistently stated sources of information</p>   |
| 2.6 Measures to fight corruption in Africa (Page 18 to 21)                          | Improved background of the study with illustrations of corruption in the previous for   |

|   |  |
|---|--|
|   | this section to benefit  |
| 2.7 Fight against corruption in Malawi (Page 21 to 22)                                    | Added empirical studies focused on the fight against corruption in Malawi  |
| 2.8 Fight Against Corruption in Zambia (Page 23 to 24)                                    | Added empirical studies focused on the fight against corruption in Zambia  |
| 2.9 Review of the current strategies in the fight against corruption in Zambia (Pages 24) | Stated sources of information  |
| 2.9.1 Challenges with the fight against corruption (Page 26)                              | Made the literature more thorough  |
| <b>Chapter Three: Methodology</b>   |  |
| 3.2 Research Design (Page 27)   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Added more depth needed, further related it to the study objectives to demonstrate critical reflection</li> <li>- Use of mixed method-referred to each approach indepth and related justification for use to the study</li> </ul> |
| 3.4 Population (Page 27)  | Clearly defined population   |
| 3.5 Sample size and technique (Page 28)   | Provided justification regarding the way the sample was selected.  |
| 3.6 Positionality and reflectivity (29)   | Added the positionality and reflective on the subject matter in order explain how biasness that might affect the research were taken care of.  |
| 3.7 Data collection (Page 29)   | Broke it down and explore for each approach  |

|  |  |
|--|--|
|  | (quantitative and qualitative)   |
| 3.8 Data analysis (Page 29)  | Added more depth   |
| 3.8 Ethical considerations (Page 30)   | Provided citation  |
| <b>Chapter Four: Presentation of research findings</b>   |  |
| 4.1 Background (Page 33)   | Improved it to make it clear   |
| 4.2 Facilitating factors that increase corruption in the UPND New Dawn government (Page 37)          | Made clearer by stating how categories of responses were arrived at and who were the key informants. |
| 4.3 Magnitude of corruption in the new dawn government (Page 40)                                     | Stated key informants  |
| 4.4 Review of the current strategies in the fight against corruption under UPND government (Page 42) | Stated key informants  |
| Discussion of Findings (Page 52 to 58)   | Made it clear by relating it to literature (empirical studies).                                      |