



UNIVERSITETET I AGDER

**Moderating the Effects of Corruption on Community
Development through Transparent Governance – A
Case Study of Nando and Aguleri Community in Anambra
State Nigeria**

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SUPERVISOR

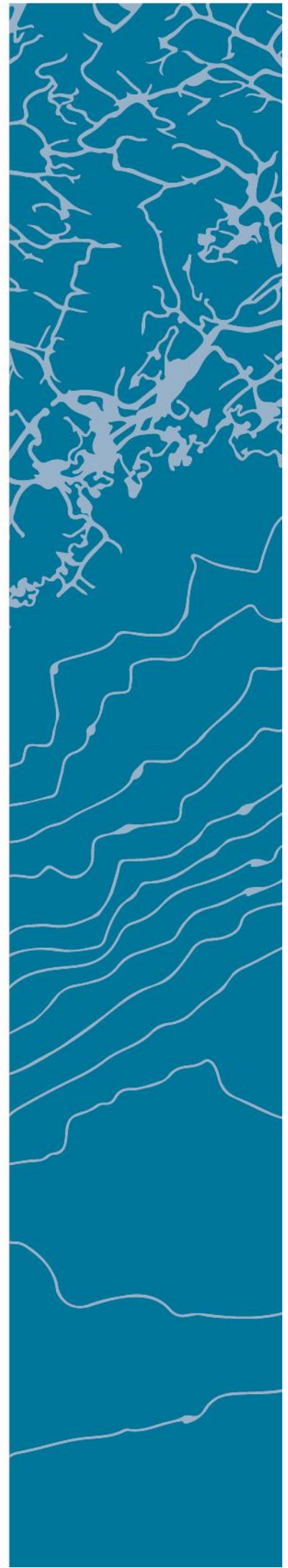
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ABSTRACT

This study investigates public perception of corruption and its effects on the development of Nando and Aguleri community in Anambra East local government area of Anambra State Nigeria. The main aim has been to understand the local people's perception on the effects of corruption on community development and whether transparent governance can moderate the identified effects. Purposive sampling was used to sample participants from five categories of group in the community over their experience to the research topic. I utilized qualitative research strategy, using mainly semi-structured interviews, focus group discussions and participant observations to collect data for the study and NVivo software was used for data analysis. Kpakpin corruption model, freedom of information theory and decentralisation constituted the theoretical background for the study. Findings show that the public perceived corruption as a serious problem which must be stopped. The perceived corrupt practices in the community include, mismanagement and embezzlement of public funds, illegal payment and bribes, underpayment of workers, non-transparent leadership and favouritism. These practices have hindered the development of the community with severe consequences which includes, poor infrastructural development, lack of basic amenities, poverty and unemployment. However, results also revealed that perception of transparent governance and improvement of socio-economic factors could have a major impact to fortify anti-corruption practices. Good leadership, monitoring of community project funds, strengthening of anti-corrupt institutions and punishment for corrupt leaders among others were analysed to minimize corrupt practices and improve the socio-economic conditions of the community.

Keywords: Corruption, Transparent governance and Community development.

DECLARATION

I, **Kenekwukwu Obinna Ofochebe**, declare that this study titled “Moderating the Effects of Corruption on Community Development through Transparent Governance – A Case Study of Nando and Aguleri Community in Anambra State Nigeria” is my original work, and has not been submitted to any other University for an academic degree, than the University of Agder, Norway. Statements from other scholars and writers, that I used, have duly been acknowledged as references.

Place: **Kristiansand, Norway**

Signature:



Date: **31st May, 2018.**

DEDICATION

I dedicate this work to my loving parents, Chief Sir & Lady O.C.A. Ofochebe, whose love, care, trust and support for me is immeasurable.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

My sincere gratitude goes to Almighty God, for his grace, strength and favour throughout my education.

I am also grateful to my supervisor, Professor Christian Webersik (PhD) for guiding me through and improving my work and for his constructive criticism, reliable encouragement and advice throughout the course of my study.

My profound gratitude goes to my parents, siblings and family members for their concern and contribution throughout the course of this study. I equally extend my appreciation to my friends and colleagues for their encouragement and support during my two years of Master's study. Thus, I particularly appreciate the gallant contribution of my good friend Michael Adewumi whose efforts on my study cannot be quantified. In a unique way, I appreciate my respondents in Nando and Aguleri community who provided a conducive environment for me to collect data as well as providing the information I needed to accomplish this study.

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CHAPTER ONE: INTRODUCTION

1.1 The phenomenon

Corruption is ubiquitous. It is a serious problem that has existed in the human society for a long time and occurs in both developed and developing economies of the world (Lawal, 2007). In recent times there have been significant increase in the attention paid to corruption due to series of high level corruption cases in industrialized countries and increasing awareness of the cost of corruption throughout the world. In Africa, corruption has eaten deep into the society. African countries cannot bear the costs of corruption which has hindered its development potential and minimizes the ability of governments to reduce poverty (Lawal, 2007). World Bank cited in Ikezue & Alawari (2015) defined corruption as the “abuse of public office for private gains”. Corruption obstructs the developing economy by using public resources for personal gains. Public office is abused for private gain when an official accepts or extorts bribes, and when private agents offer bribes to by-pass public policies and procedure for personal advantage and profit. Public office is also abused through theft of state assets and diversion of state resources, and manipulation of funds meant for large scale projects rather than providing necessary public services like health facilities, roads, housing and education (Ikezue & Alawari, 2015, p. 130). Lawal (2007) argues that corruption is worst in countries where institutions such as legislature and judiciary are weak, and where rule of law and adherence to formal rules are not thoroughly observed.

The adverse effects of corruption (which includes lack of quality education, poor infrastructure, lack of basic amenities, poverty etc.) have highly affected the development of Nigerian communities as argued by Ibraheem, Umar & Ajoke (2013), Ikezue & Alawari (2015), Nwankwo (2014), and Shah (2009). There appears to be a strong relationship between corruption and community development of any country which requires critical investigation to provide appropriate understanding of the problem. This relationship are the corrupt practices (i.e. mismanagement and embezzlement of public funds, illegal payments and bribes, falsification of records, favouritism, underpayment etc.), which hinders the development of any community (Ikezue & Alawari, 2015). The effects of corruption on the development of Nigerian communities cannot be overemphasized. Nigeria has an estimated population of 185, 989, 640 million people which made it the most populous nation in Africa according to World Bank Group (2018) information. However, over 70% of this population live on less than \$1 (dollar) a day, and absolute poverty. Absolute poverty is measured by those who can hardly afford the basic essential needs of life i.e. shelter, food and clothing according to BBC (2012). BBC (2012, p. n.a) further assert that “Nigeria is Africa’s biggest oil producer, but the sector has been tainted by accusations of corruption”.

The percentage of Nigerians living in poverty is higher in the rural areas because of the poor socio-economic and infrastructural development. This despite the abundant natural resources such as oil and gas, minerals, agriculture etc. and impressive economic growth the country is blessed with, yet there exist little or no serious development activities going on in the communities. The rural people depend mainly on subsistence agriculture for food and income and have limited access to developmental infrastructures such as quality education, health centres, safe drinking water or alternative employment creation infrastructures like industries and commerce (Ola, Mohammed & Audi, 2014; Nwankwo, 2014; Ikezue & Alawari, 2015).

The recent 2017 Transparency International (TI), Corruption Perception Index (CPI) ranking, scores Nigeria 28/100 with a rank of N0. 148 out of 180 countries surveyed (*more details in fig. 2*), and a significant 12 places below where it scored 27/100 and sat at 136th the previous year (Transparency International, 2018). This year's CPI shows that Nigeria is making little or no progress in ending corruption, with a huge disappointment to President Muhammadu Buhari administration (President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria), who came into office on the strength of his anti-corruption credential. Although his administration has put some suspected politicians and governments officials on trial and seized their assets, yet it has been heavily accused of condoning corrupt practices by top government officials (Chima, 2018). New Zealand maintains N0. 1 in CPI ranking with a score of 89/100, Denmark at the second place with 88/100, while Finland, Norway and Switzerland are joint with score of 85/100 in third place. In Africa, Nigeria ranks 32nd position out of 52 countries assessed. Botswana leads the continent with most transparent and corrupt-free governance, while the most corrupt countries are South Sudan and Somalia (Transparency International, 2018). In accordance to the recent CPI ranking and corruption situation in Nigeria, the Civil Society Legislative Advocacy Centre (CISLAC) asserts that "This fresh setback in the fight against corruption confirms that grand-corruption, political corruption, nepotism, favouritism and bribery persists in Nigeria at all levels, since the current administration has come to power on the anti-corruption ticket, no significant politically exposed person has been duly sentenced on anti-corruption charges" (Bayagbon, 2018, p. n.a).

The logical assumption is that corruption has negative effects on community development, but some scholars also argue that it has some positive impacts where some public tolerates a degree of corruption in exchange for what they perceive to be a means of subsistence. For instance, Tabachnik (2011, p. 5) reveals that "because of the desperate need of people especially in the village to acquire money, they are willing to accept bribes in order to feed their families, pay school fees or buy clothing". He further describes that political parties including both the opposition and the ruling

party understand this immense need, so they go door-to-door to buy votes before elections, they offer food items or money in exchange for a tick on the ballot box. Additionally, researchers like Leff (1964) and Huntington (1968) cited in Abu, Karim & Aziz (2014) argue that corruption can have positive effect on economic development via increased efficiency through the concept of “grease the wheels” being practiced in some Asian countries like China. For instance, entrepreneurs pay bribes to government officials to reduce the time they spend in queues to obtain business permits or contract approval, which in turn increases efficiency and investment (Abu et al, 2014, p. 46). Park & Blenkinsopp (2011) posit that the electoral success of some political leaders signify that the public are willing to tolerate a level of corruption in exchange for what they perceive to be “a well-run city” (p. 254).

On the contrary, Chair of Transparency International, José Ugaz asserts that “in too many countries, people are deprived of their most basic needs and go to bed hungry every night because of corruption, while the powerful and corrupt enjoy lavish lifestyles with impunity” (Transparency International, 2017). Researchers like Ikezue & Alawari (2015) argue that in developing countries like Nigeria, “limited resources that are initially allocated for industries, hospitals, road construction, schools and other infrastructures are either out rightly siphoned, embezzled, misappropriated, or otherwise severely depleted through kickbacks and over invoicing by government officials” (p. 131). Thus, this study will analyse the nature of effect, which corruption has on the development of Nando and Aguleri community in Anambra State Nigeria.

Transparent governance is considered to moderate the impact of corruption on community development. Many scholars argue that transparency will reduce government malfeasance through its effective effect. The demand for transparency has grown rapidly, with organizations in both private and public sectors being encouraged to be more transparent (Florini, 2007; Park & Blenkinsopp, 2011; Pope, 2005). Gaining citizens trust has remained a high challenge for public organizations. Transparency is defined as sharing information in an open manner. The local people free access to information is a key element of transparent governance which is considered essential for controlling corruption in communities (Florini, 2007). Transparency is one of the fundamental moral rights in democratic societies, by promoting the people’s right to have access to governmental information. Transparent governance is characterised by independent judicial system, freedom of thought and expression, accountability and reliability, justice and equity. It ensures that the citizens especially the poorest have the basic needs of life (Rahman, 2016). Researchers like Park & Blenkinsopp (2011) argue that “transparency in an organization is not only about what’s communicated externally, but about what’s right on the inside, in the guts of its operations” (p. 254). Government transparency has been argued by scholars as one of the practical measures taken to curtail corruption. It acts as deterrent

against corrupt behaviour by encouraging citizens vigilance, trust and accountability, and discouraging public officials from misusing civil service to attain private gain (Florini, 2007).

Hence, transparent governance is widely recognised as a core principle of good governance because it provides improvements in socio-economic outcomes and aid effectiveness. Good governance is considered as the effective tool for overcoming multidimensional challenges existing in both developed and developing countries (Rahman, 2016). Rahman (2016) asserts that “the concept of good governance conveys the qualitative dimension of governance that indicates effective, efficient, participative, or democratic form of government which is responsible for transparent and accountable management of human, economic and financial resources for equitable and sustainable development” (p. 40). Many scholars have argued that transparent/good governance is highly successful in providing quality services towards alleviating poverty and improving community development in countries. The question now is why has corruption continue to pose threat to development of communities and social wellbeing? What are the identified corrupt practices and its effects globally? Can transparent governance be an effective tool to reduce the impact of corruption and enhance community development globally?

To respond to the questions above, this study found a need to conduct a qualitative research on Nando and Aguleri community in Anambra State Nigeria, to investigate the perceived corrupt practices and its consequences on the development of the community. To also find out from the local people’s perception what are needed to minimise corrupt practices and establish transparent governance. This paper is determined to discover the extent the people believe transparent governance will be successful in improving the socio-economic conditions of the community. To achieve this aim, this study uses primary data obtained from Nando and Aguleri community to provide a groundwork, the data were analysed in order to support or reject the study propositions.

1.2 Problem statement

In Anambra State Nigeria, increasing corrupt practices (same as mentioned above) has continue to affect the development of its communities. Corruption has contributed to the state’s underdevelopment with adverse effects on government revenue, health care, quality of education, infrastructural development, employment opportunities, basic amenities, equal rights and justice etc. Corruption as a factor shaping community development is an act which diverges from the formal rules of conduct governing the actions of someone in a position of public authority because of personal motive like greed, wealth and power (Lawal, 2007). According to the survey conducted by

Citizens Anti-Corruption Volunteers Corp (CACVC), Anambra State was rated one of the most corrupt states in Nigeria. The organization assert that “the civil service has for long been a source of controversy due to perennial corrupt practices in the discharge of duties, and public officers are also specially designed to be opaque” (NewsExpress Nigeria, 2017). Thus, corruption in the civil service operation and the way money disappears into individual pockets has been significantly alarming. The Vice President of Nigeria, Prof Yemi Osibanjo identified corruption as the main reason for Nigeria’s poor states, and the country cannot progress without addressing the threat. He further asserts that the country is rich enough to provide for all of her citizens but those in control of resources are highly corrupt. Thus, the government must be transparent and tackle poverty if Nigerians must enjoy the dividends of democracy (Adetayo & Joel, 2017).

In Anambra East local government area of Anambra State Nigeria, Nando and Aguleri community is one of the least developed community in the state despite its high labour productivity, agriculture, and revenues from the state government. I visited the community and observed that there still exist poor living standards, lack of quality education, lack of basic amenities, poor infrastructures etc. Corruption has impeded the development of the community for a very long time. This study will be contextualized to specifically uncover the perceived effects of corruption on the development of Nando and Aguleri community in Anambra East local government area of Anambra State Nigeria, and also to investigate and show weather transparent governance can moderate the identified effects.

1.3 Motivation of study

Although studies on effects of corruption on development in other parts of the world are widely reported in literature, but very few researches on the phenomenon exist in Anambra State Nigeria. Thus, little or no study has analysed the moderating effect of transparent governance on corruption. Therefore, this research suggests that there is a gap yet to be filled by not going towards this direction. Some scholars have researched the impact of transparent governance, and effects of corruption from different perspectives with different variables but research has rarely been able to examine the local people’s perception on the relationship between transparent governance and corruption on a community level. This study examines weather transparent governance can moderate effects of corrupt practices on a community level. A significant considerable contribution of this study is the community level approach in which the local people’s opinion is perceived to enhance community development.

1.4 Main objective of the Study

- To investigate how the local people perceive the effects of corruption on the development of Nando and Aguleri community in Anambra State Nigeria.
- To study the local people's perceptions on how transparent governance can tackle corruption effects and promote trust and cooperation between them and the government towards enhancing community development.

1.5 Research Questions

1. What are the perceived corrupt practices in Nando and Aguleri community of Anambra State?
2. Where and at what level does the local people think that corrupt practices occur?
3. What are the perceived consequences of corrupt practices in Nando and Aguleri community of Anambra State?
4. According to local people's perceptions, what are needed to minimize corruptive practices?
5. To which extent do people believe that transparent governance is a precondition to improve the socio-economic conditions in Nando and Aguleri?

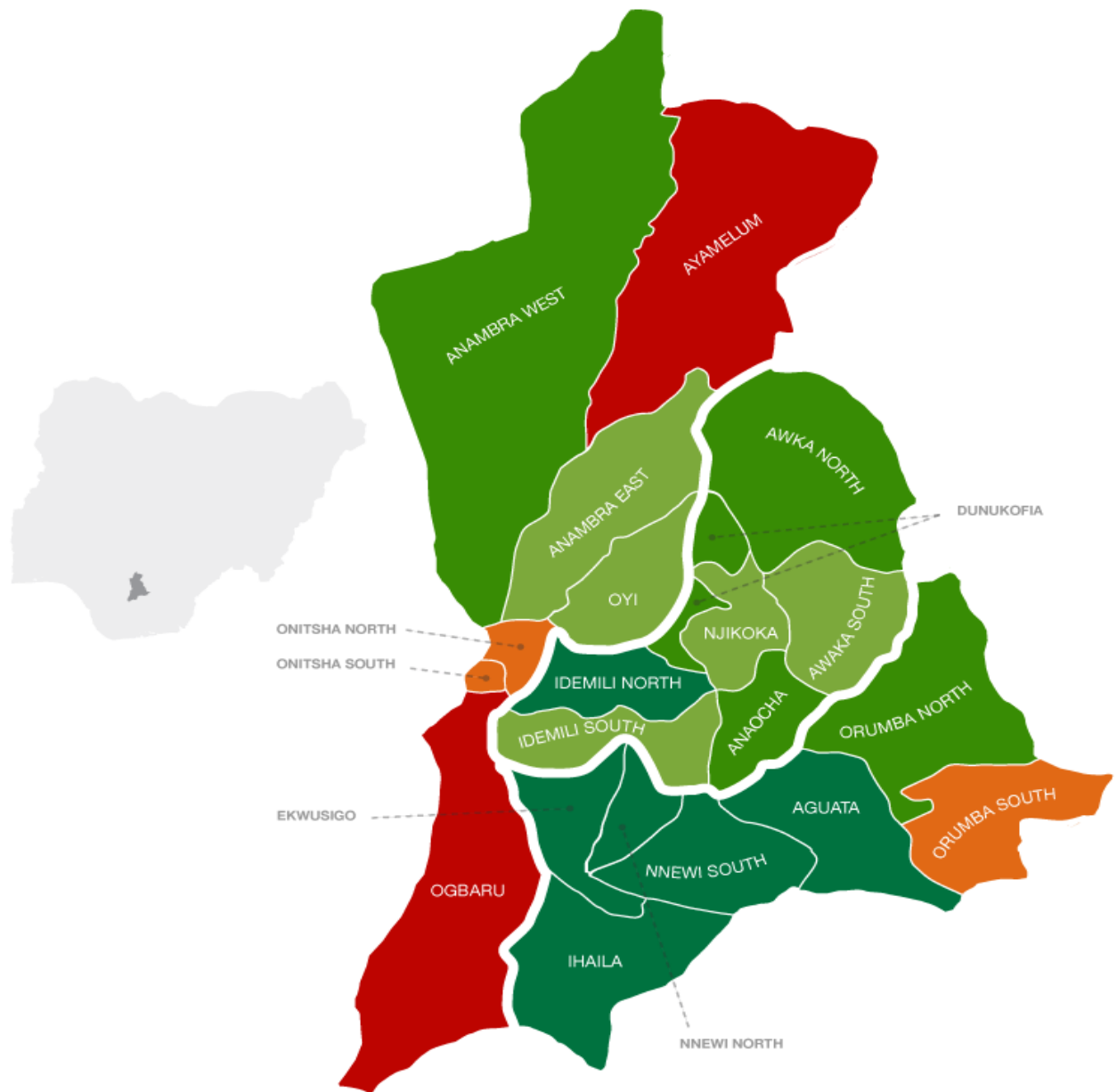
1.6 Study Area

Anambra State is one of the thirty-six states constituting the Nigerian Federation. It is geographically located in the South-Eastern part of Nigeria. Its name was derived from "Oma Mbala", which is the native name of Anambra river. The capital and seat of the government is Awka. Onitsha, Nnewi and Ekwulobia are the biggest commercial and industrial cities in the state, and the state's theme is "Light of the Nation". Old Anambra State was created in 1976 from East Central State, with Enugu as its capital, then in 1991 a re-organization divided Anambra into two states, new Anambra and Enugu emerged (Anambra State Government, 2017). Anambra is bordered by Delta State to the west, Imo State and Rivers State to the south, Enugu State to the east and Kogi State to the north, covering an area of 4,844km². Anambra is the eight most populated state in the Federal Republic of Nigeria, and most populated among the south eastern states with an estimated 5.8 million people according to Population City (2018). The indigenous ethnic group in the state are the Igbo (98% of the population), and a small population of Igala (2% of the population) who live mainly in the north-western part of the state. Economically, the state is rich in natural gas, crude oil, bauxite and ceramic, including other resources in terms of agro-based activities such as fisheries, framing and animal husbandry. Anambra boasts of several markets at each of the towns especially the famous Onitsha main market located in

Onitsha, the most commercial city in the state. Onitsha market is rated the largest market in west Africa based on geographical size and volume of goods (Anambra State Government, 2017).

This study is conducted in Anambra East local government area of Anambra state. It is located at the eastern part of the state. The towns that make up the local government are Nando and Aguleri, Enugwu Aguleri, Eziagulu Otu, Enugu Otu, Otuocho, Umuoba Anam, Umuleri, Igbariam, and Nsugbe. This study focused more on Aguleri and Nando community (i.e. one settlement consisting of two names), it is one of the oldest town in eastern Nigeria, the people of Aguleri and Nando belong to the Igbo ethnic group of Nigeria. The present Governor of Anambra State Chief Willie Obiano is from the community, and the headquarter of Anambra East local government area is also located at the community. The population of Nando and Aguleri community is about 500,000 recorded in 2006 official Nigeria census, with a landmass of about 480 km² (Wikipedia, 2017). The community is endowed with good and fertile soil land that is well suited for agriculture. Farming and fishing are the main occupation of its inhabitants. Some of the main food crops that are grown in the community are yam, cassava, maize, palm produce, groundnut and cashew etc.

Figure 1 is map of Anambra State Nigeria showing its 21 local government areas including Anambra East Local Government Area, which is where the study area community Nando and Aguleri is located.



Source: (Google Maps, 2018).

1.7 Research disposition

This research study is constructed to have six chapters in the following order. Chapter one is the introduction containing the phenomenon, problem statement, motivation of the study, objectives of the study, research questions and study area. Chapter two is the literature reviews on corruption, transparent governance and community development. Chapter three contains the theoretical background and conceptual framework of the study. Chapter four is the research and data collection methods and encountered limitations. Chapter five contains the empirical findings and data analysis. Chapter six will incorporate the discussion, conclusion and suggestions for further research.

CHAPTER TWO: LITERATURE REVIEW

2.0 Introduction

This section presents existing literature related to the topic of study. The section has been arranged in sub-themes namely: meanings attached to the concept of corruption, transparent governance and community development both in Nigeria and Africa. This section also highlights the lawful perspectives relating to corruption effects and the relationship between transparent governance and community development.

2.1 Corruption

As highlighted earlier, the issue of increasing corruption and its effects on community development globally has created many arguments among various scholars. Lawal (2007) defined corruption as “the perversion of integrity or state of affairs through bribery, favour or moral depravity. It takes place when at least two parties have interacted to change the structure or processes of society or the behaviour of functionaries to produce dishonest, unfaithful defiled situations” (p. 2). Governance in Africa is interpreted as a return to “the heart of darkness” and a “criminalisation of politics”; a cancer of corruption whose corrosive spread hinders development (Shah, 2009, p. 295). World Bank (1992) and (2007), cited in Shah (2009) define corruption as “the misuse of public property, office or mandatory power for private gain”; corrupt people obstructs the developing economy by using public resources for personal gain. They believe that one must work solely for the common good because the spread of corruption is as a result of people satisfying personal interest which affects collective good of development (p. 295-296). Roseberry (1988) cited in Shah (2009) further asserts that “the moral economies within which we understand corrupt practices are intimately connected to a political economy, whereby social and cultural phenomena are situated in the wider circumstances of sustaining a living and the structures of power that shape and constrain activity” (p. 297).

Some schools of thought highlighted the factors responsible for corrupt practices in a society. The USA secretary of state in 1995 sees corruption from a cultural perspective which means it is in the culture of some countries to be corrupt. But the argument is however disputed, when former USSR states describe that corruption is not a cultural phenomenon rather a universal phenomenon, i.e a practice that supersedes culture and custom (Ibraheem, Umar, & Ajoke, 2013). Authors like Adewale (2011) discuss that the most reasonable argument in this area is that corruption is intractably determined by the stage of development and the type of government that exists in a society or nation. i.e., in highly corrupt countries, the government bureaucracies create conducive atmosphere for corrupt practices. Government of certain countries create incentives for bribery and corruption

because of political reasons, and directly involve itself in order to have their way through the legislative arms (Ibraheem et al, 2013). Several scholars who studied corruption concluded that corruption has negative impacts on growth and development of any nation. According to Adewale (2011) cited in Ibraheem et al. (2013), “corrupt practices inherently introduce distortions in the economic system, it impairs hard work, diligence and efficiency, and it is capable of diverting resources meant for the development of the society to private or personal use” (p. 49). Pike, Rodríguez-Pose & Tomaney (2006) highlighted that ‘self-governance networks’ (related to democracy) often experience problems of accountability, which hinders the effectiveness of its transparency (p. 129). Some of the democratic leaders are corrupt because self-governance provides them with the opportunity to make independent decisions and to have full control over state resources. These leaders mismanage public funds for their private gain, engage in favouritism, underpayment of workers, falsification of documents and records, illegal payments and bribes etc. thereby increasing poor living standards, lack of quality education, lack of basic amenities, poor infrastructures, which affects the citizens trust and participation in the government. This argument maintains that corruption does not give room for honest selection process and manipulates government policies.

However, some scholars also argue that corruption has positive effects. As highlighted earlier, Leff (1964) and Huntington (1968) cited in Abu et al. (2014) argue that corruption can have positive effect on economic development via increased efficiency, like being practiced in some Asian countries such as China where the bureaucracy is inefficient and constitutes barrier to investment. For instance, entrepreneurs pay bribes to government officials to reduce the time they spend in queues to obtain business permits, licences or contract approval, which in turn increases efficiency and investment, and economic growth (p. 46). In addition, similar cases were also practiced in the United States in 1866, when entrepreneurs offered rewards and won contracts even at overstated prices to facilitate the construction of international railway systems (Goldsmith, 1999). The level of economic development or income level of countries plays an important role in promoting or reducing corruption as argued by Abu et al. (2014). They believe that low-income/less developed countries tend to be more corrupt and politically unstable, while higher income/developed economies tend to have lesser corruption. They further narrate that corruption and political instability reinforce each other. In Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) region, the military has been accused of massive corruption and poor economic conditions which has caused seizure of power and staging coups, they were also accused of failing to lift majority of the citizens out of poverty (p. 46).

2.1.1 Types of Corruption

Transparency International also defined corruption as “the abuse of entrusted power for private gain”. They classified corruption types as grand, administrative/petty and political, which depends on the amount of capital lost and the sector where it occurs. *Grand corruption* consists of acts committed at high level of government which twist policies of the state, thereby enabling leaders to benefit at the expense of public prosperity. Atuobi (2007) further explains that grand corruption involves higher level officials and larger sums of money. These includes embezzlement of public funds by those in charge, rewards to win large public procurements and cases of large multinational companies paying millions of dollars to government leaders or politicians to obtain business contracts (p. 7). *Administrative/petty corruption* involves everyday abuse of power by low and mid-level public officials through their interaction with citizens and businessmen who are trying to access basic amenities or services in places like hospitals, schools, police departments etc. Such act includes demanding bribes before rendering these public services which are supposed to be free. *Political corruption* refers to manoeuvring of policies and rules of procedure in the distribution of resources and finance by political decision makers, who abuse their position to sustain their power, status and wealth (Transparency International, 2018). Other types of corruption as identified by Tolu & Ogunro (2012) are moral corruption, economic corruption and electoral corruption. *Moral corruption* is exhibited in sexual pervasiveness and greed especially in interpersonal relationship and loose tongues. For instance, uncontrolled tongue that leaks secrets, indecent dressing etc. *Economic corruption* refers to cruel acts that involves manufacturing of fake drugs, adulteration of drinks, piracy, copying of another person’s intellectual work illegally to enrich oneself (plagiarism), frauds etc. *Electoral corruption* involves electoral frauds such as election malpractices, manipulation of election results, registration of underage voters etc.

2.2 Corruption in Africa

Corruption has undermined and retarded the development potentials of many African countries. A series of reforms have been carried out in all the African countries in order to strengthen the system towards efficiency, but corruption has affected the visibility and benefits of such efforts (Lawal, 2007). Lawal (2007) argues that “the situation has gone so bad in Africa to the extent that whichever way one views corruption, it involves a violation of public duty or deviation from high morals standards in exchange for (or in anticipation of) personal pecuniary gains” (p. 4). Corruption in Africa is perceived in the political, social and economic spheres with high consequence of loss of revenues, increased cost of business operation, poor service delivery, poverty, unemployment and crises. “There

is increasing evidence that the social and economic cost of corruption disproportionately affects the poor, who not only suffer from the lack of services and efficient government, but who are also powerless to resist the demands of corrupt officials” (Lawal, 2007, p. 4). Different arguments have been examined by various scholars to explain the extensiveness of corruption in Africa. Hence, the riches of some African heads of state believed to be embezzled from national funds were published by French weekly (May, 1997) as presented by Lawal (2007, p. 4) are as follows:

- General Sani Abacha of Nigeria -- US\$20 billion
- President H. Boigny of Ivory Coast -- US\$6 billion
- General Ibrahim Babangida of Nigeria -- US\$5 billion
- President Mobutu of Zaire -- US\$4 billion
- President Mouza Traore of Mali -- US\$2 billion
- President Henri Bedie of Ivory Coast -- US\$300 million
- President Denis N’gnesso of Congo -- US\$80 million
- President Paul Biya of Cameroon -- US\$70 million
- President Haite Mariam of Ethiopia -- US\$30 million
- President Hissene Habre of Chad -- US\$3 million etc.

Researchers argue that if the profits from corrupt practices are reinvested into the economy, the negative effects maybe be limited. United Nation (1991) cited in Lawal (2007) assert that “more than US\$200 billion in capital was siphoned out of Africa by the ruling elites”, amounting to more than half of Africa’s foreign debt of US\$300 billion (p. 5). The ruling elites in Africa have so much desire and boast for power that they overturn the key government institutions like judiciary, military, media, banking etc. to serve their needs instead of that of the people. Atuobi (2007) argues that the widespread of corruption in African communities has resulted in mass poverty and high levels of unemployment which has deeply affected the citizens trust in government and contributes to crime and political disorder. Based on his argument, In Ghana and other West African states, corruption and embezzlement of funds have been mentioned among the reasons for military takeovers (p. 2).

Thus, for the past two decades, internal conflicts have severely disrupted African social and economic development. To mention but a few, in the Mano River Union - Guinea, Liberia and Sierra Leone have been involved in civil wars which have also affected their neighbouring countries. Conflict in the Casamance region of Senegal has engaged The Gambia, Guinea Bissau and Senegal for the past decades (Atuobi, 2007). Atuobi (2007) further argues that corruption has played a key role in prolonging these conflicts through illegal sale of arms and illegal extraction of high value natural resources such as diamonds, gold and timber (p. 3). The weapons smuggled across these

regions are finally used by rebel groups for fighting civil wars and armed robbery. Atuobi (2007) investigated the impact of corruption in West Africa and found out that there was case of ghost workers in the Ghana civil service payroll. The Auditor General revealed payment of more than US\$20 million to about 2,000 ghost workers between the years 2000 to 2002. Further, In Burkina Faso, corruption survey identified the police as the most corrupt institution in the country. Sierra Leone 2004 corruption survey revealed bribery as the most corrupt practice, while in Ghana, low salaries, gift giving, weak corruption reporting system and poor management practice was revealed (p. 8-9).

Regional corruption survey by Fatafta (2018) for Transparency International in Arab States disclose that corruption remains widespread in the region with effects of assaults on freedom of expression and press freedoms and worsen civil society. The recent 2017 TI Corruption Perception Index shows that 19 countries out of 21 Arab states score below 50 points out of possible 100. Tunisia while improving on anti-corruption efforts witnessed setback due to their implementation of “controversial reconciliation law” which granted amnesty to corrupt officials who served during Ben Ali regime (Fatafta, 2018). Researchers like Fatafta (2018, p. n.a) argues that the "political system in Arab states are controlled by ruling elites who abuse power for personal gain at the expense of millions of disadvantaged citizens” and speaking the truth in the region is a risky and intimidating task. In mid-2016, Bahrain government increased assaults with restrictions on freedom of expression and freedom of association. It dissolved the main political opposition group and imprisoned their human right defenders, also revoked citizenship of interrogate anti-corruption activists and those who criticised the government (Fatafta, 2018). Similar human right situation and assaults occurred in Egypt and Morocco with ruthless response to the people’s call for social justice and anti-corruption. (Fatafta, 2018). Fatafta further argues that the internal wars and conflicts in Iraq, Libya, Somalia, Sudan, Syria and Yemen are consequences of corruption in which the region now suffer as a result of weak political institutions, political instability and bad governance.

2.3 Perception of Corruption in Nigeria

Transparency International (TI), Corruption Perception Index (CPI) published annually shows that corruption is widespread in Nigeria. The highest index points the nation has ever scored is 2.7 out of 10 points which means for over the past 2 decades the country has been appearing in the roll call, she has always been among the worst rated corrupt countries in the world (Ikezue & Alawari, 2015). Ibraheem et al. (2013) explain that despite Nigeria having the world’s seventh largest reserve of crude oil and other natural resources, poverty and underdevelopment still devastate the country. They further assert that “this can be seen from all indexes of development over the years, and the major

reason advanced for this is the prevalence of corruption in governance, public and private places” (p. 47). Almost every Nigerian will tell you that corruption is abundant in Nigeria. Uma & Eboh (2013) argue that corruption in Nigeria is a contagious disease which everybody in the society desires to be part of. Thus, that is the reason behind over 150 candidates competing for one political post during election period, because most people want to be in control of power so as to become rich overnight. Corruption existed in the democratic and non-democratic governments in Nigeria. Uma & Eboh (2013) further points out that corruption in Nigeria is beneficial to specific group of people, mostly the leaders and political associates and creates unfairness in opportunities. For instance, there are rampant situation where those who work more earn less and those who work less earn more, thereby promoting vices like armed-robbery, kidnapping, deceit etc. Every year a reasonable allocation is budgeted for electrical power supply, road network, communication, health, education etc. but the expected impact of these resources is highly dissatisfactory. This occurs because the funds are often embezzled for personal use, and this is the reason why scholars like Ikezue & Alawari (2015) concluded that “corruption is a deadly disease that has eaten deep into the nucleus of Nigeria and as such has retarded growth in all sectors” (p. 132). Researcher like Ogbeidi (2012) examined political leadership and corruption in Nigeria since 1960 and opines that it is an undeniable fact that corruption has been the misery of Nigeria’s development, the phenomenon has ravaged the country and destroyed most of its cherished national values. He further explained that the leaders who took the responsibility of directing the affairs of the country have been the major offender in committing this act.

Ola, Mohammed & Audi (2014) assert that corruption manifests itself in Nigeria inform of “abuse of positions and privileges, low levels of transparency and accountability, inflation of contracts, bribery/kickbacks, misappropriation or diversion of funds, under and over invoicing, false declarations, advance fee fraud, collection of tolls, commodity hoarding, illicit smuggling of drugs, malpractices including counterfeiting of currency, theft of intellectual property and piracy, open market abuse, nepotism etc.” (p. 210). Government efforts in combating corruption in Nigeria has not been fully successful because corrupt practices still occur, and most communities still remain in poverty and underdevelopment. The legal instruments used before to fight corruption in Nigeria include the Criminal Code 1966, Code of Conduct Bureau 1979, and the Recovery of Public Property act of 1984. Having failed to stop the tide of corruption, The Economic and Financial Crimes Commission (EFCC), The Independent Corrupt Practices Commission (ICPC) was established in the year 2000. They were charged with the responsibility of prohibiting the public officials from maintaining or operating foreign accounts, declaration of assets of public officials immediately after taking office and at the end of their terms. Additionally, investigating, arresting and charging any

offenders with corrupt practice or financial crimes to law court (Ola et al, 2014, p. 210-211). The president of Nigeria “Muhammadu Buhari” on his 1st October 2017 presidential speech during the celebration of the nation's 57th year independence pointed out that *“in spite of oil prices being an average of \$100 per barrel and about 2.1m barrels a day, that great piece of luck was squandered, and the country’s social and physical infrastructure neglected”* (Vanguard, 2017a, p. n.a). He further said that the nation must fight against corruption which is Nigeria's number one enemy (Vanguard, 2017a). That is why many people in Nigeria refuse to pay taxes because they believe that the government is corrupt and is not channelling the funds appropriately, while some pay bribes in order to access the social welfare/basic amenities to survive (Arasomwan, 2016; Olawoyin, 2017).

Some recent notable grand corruption that occur in Nigeria includes: The Nigeria’s former oil minister “Diezani Alison-Madueke” who ran Nigerian National Petroleum Corporation (NNPC) from 2010-2015 was charged for money laundering by the Nigeria’s federal high court in connection with alleged bribery scandal. She was accused of diverting state funds, awarding of multi-billion Nigerian naira contracts without regard to due process and recklessly spending of government funds worth over (US\$153.3 million) with three other officials in the country’s electoral commission (Toromade, 2017). The EFCC (Nigeria’s foremost anticorruption agency) has been able to track down US\$5 million and another 9.08 billion Nigerian naira out of the US\$153.3m. Consequently, she was also accused of collecting bribe worth over US\$1.7 billion from two oil company owners in exchange for billion-dollar marketing contracts. The EFCC confirmed tracing of 47.2 billion Nigerian naira and US\$487.5 million in cash and properties belonging to the former minister (EFCC, 2018). In reaction to this, the then governor of Central Bank of Nigeria “Sanusi Lamido Sanusi” claimed the NNPC failed to remit US\$18.5 billion to treasure department, and that the breakdown of the NNPC’s account and how it’s been manipulated raises serious questions about the legality of the code of conduct of the state’s oil company. He asserts that “the lines of investigation suggested by this audit need to be pursued. Any official found responsible for involvement in this apparent breach of trust must be charged” (Vanguard, 2015). In October 2015, the International Corruption Unit of the U.K National Crime Agency (NCA) arrested five people including the former oil minister in London as part of an ongoing investigation for suspected bribery and money laundering, she was released on conditional police bail base on health issues but awaiting trail (Gaffey, 2017). It has been argued that the stolen funds could fund infrastructural developments (world class airports, railway lines, employments for the youths, agricultural projects etc.) in the country.

On November 2015, the Nigerian President ordered the arrest of former National Security Adviser “Sambo Dasuki” and publicity secretary for the opposition party People’s Democratic Party

(PDP) “Olisa Metuh” on corruption charges. The presidency claims that Sambo Dasuki and Olisa Metuh stole more than US\$2 billion meant for purchase of weapons and other equipment needed to fight Boko Haram terrorists wreaking havoc in the country’s northeast (Foreign Policy, 2015; Gaffey, 2016). More than 17,000 civilians and security personnel are believed to have been killed by Boko Haram and 2 million people internally displaced in the last 6 years, the same terrorist group known for kidnapping of 260 Chibok school girls in 2014. Dasuki was accused of “awarding phantom contracts to buy dozen helicopters, four fighter jets, bombs, and ammunition. None of the equipment or weapons were ever supplied to the military” (Foreign Policy, 2015, p. n.a). It is believed that they diverted the funds for PDP campaigning purposes and money laundering, although both denied the allegations, but the charges are currently on-going in law court. President Buhari also believes that roughly US\$150 billion has been stolen from Nigeria by corrupt officials over the past decade (Foreign Policy, 2015; Gaffey, 2016). In February 2018, there was videos and pictures showing scores of children under ten years old queuing and voting in Kano State local government elections, with the state electoral body accused of condoning such acts. The Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC) has accepted the challenge of investigating the incident, with eight-man committee set up to discover if the voters requested by the State Electoral Commission was actually used in the election (Vanguard, 2018).

However, despite the strong determination of the present Nigerian government to tackle corruption in the country, some notable Nigerians have blamed the presidency of being partial in the fight against corruption. The present Governor of Ekiti State Nigeria “Ayodele Fayose” claims the President is “treating corruption involving his men as family affair”. He asserts that “*when miscreants write petitions to the Economic and Financial Crimes Commission (EFCC) against perceived opponents of president Buhari, EFCC will act immediately, but when well-known Nigerians, including members of Buhari’s government raise allegation of corruption against close allies of the president, EFCC will look the other way*” (Vanguard, 2017b, p. n.a). He describes the situation as being lenient on corruption when it affects Buhari’s men, while being too harsh when it involves the President’s political opponents. This happened after the present Minister of State for Petroleum Resources “Ibe Kachikwu” accused the present NNPC Group Managing Director (GMD) “Maikanti Baru” of awarding contracts worth US\$25 billion without consulting either his office or the corporation’s board, thereby running a “bravado management style”. Kachikwu urged that the GMD should be called to order to follow the due process and transparency in the oil sector, also claimed he has being blocked from seeing the President (Alli, 2017). Fayose claims that Nigerians are still asking questions about the accountability of recovered stolen funds and its impact.

Figure 2 is Transparency International Corruption Perception Index 2017 showing Nigeria ranked at 148th position with other countries in similar position. Total of 180 countries was assessed.

| 2017 Rank | Country | 2017 Score | 2016 Score | 2015 Score | 2014 Score | 2013 Score | 2012 Score | Region |
|-----------|--------------------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------------------------|
| 143 | Mauritania | 28 | 27 | 31 | 30 | 30 | 31 | Middle East and North Africa |
| 148 | Comoros | 27 | 24 | 26 | 26 | 28 | 28 | Sub Saharan Africa |
| 148 | Guinea | 27 | 27 | 25 | 25 | 24 | 24 | Sub Saharan Africa |
| 148 | Nigeria | 27 | 28 | 26 | 27 | 25 | 27 | Sub Saharan Africa |
| 151 | Nicaragua | 26 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 28 | 29 | Americas |
| 151 | Uganda | 26 | 25 | 25 | 26 | 26 | 29 | Sub Saharan Africa |
| 153 | Cameroon | 25 | 26 | 27 | 27 | 25 | 26 | Sub Saharan Africa |
| 153 | Mozambique | 25 | 27 | 31 | 31 | 30 | 31 | Sub Saharan Africa |
| 155 | Madagascar | 24 | 26 | 28 | 28 | 28 | 32 | Sub Saharan Africa |
| 156 | Central African Republic | 23 | 20 | 24 | 24 | 25 | 26 | Sub Saharan Africa |
| 157 | Burundi | 22 | 20 | 21 | 20 | 21 | 19 | Sub Saharan Africa |
| 157 | Haiti | 22 | 20 | 17 | 19 | 19 | 19 | Americas |
| 157 | Uzbekistan | 22 | 21 | 19 | 18 | 17 | 17 | Europe and Central Asia |
| 157 | Zimbabwe | 22 | 22 | 21 | 21 | 21 | 20 | Sub Saharan Africa |

Source: (Transparency International, 2018).

2.4 Causes of corruption in Nigeria

Several factors have been cited for the bases of corruption in Nigeria. Ajie & Wokekoro (2012) found out that weak government institutions, dysfunctional legal system, lack of transparency, high poverty and unemployment rate, cultural system, and political involvement on the operations of the anti-corruption agencies enhance the major causes of corruption in Nigeria. Rotimi, Obasaju, Lawal & IseOlorunkanmi (2013) also highlight that weak enforcement mechanism (i.e. lack of judicial independence; weak prosecutorial institutions) has been identified as one of the major causes of corruption in Nigeria. The law enforcement agencies that fight corruption are often weak and some of the institutions are corrupt too. Human Rights Watch cited in Ikezue & Alawari (2015) describe that Nigeria's political system seemed to have institutionalised corruption by rewarding offenders rather than punishing them. The body also faulted the delay of the nation's courts in attending to corruption cases. They declared thus:

“The courts can also be an obstacle to accountability. Most of the EFCC cases against prominent political figures are stalled in the courts for years without the trials even commencing. Nigeria's weak and overburdened judiciary offers seemingly endless opportunities for skilled defence lawyers to secure interminable and sometimes frivolous delays” (p. 133).

Nigeria is also among the few countries in the world where a man's source of wealth is not questioned by his neighbours, the public or government. Once someone is able to disburse money, the religious group prays for him, the society honours him, thereby sending a message of just be rich, the ways and means are irrelevant, to the public especially those who are not financial capable (Ola et al, 2014). Ola et al. (2014) also explain that low civil service salaries and poor working conditions coupled with few incentives and rewards for efficient and effective performance, slow budget procedures and weak monitoring of projects contribute to corrupt practices in Nigeria (p. 211). International Monetary Fund (2005) cited in Ola et al. (2014) asserts that "most of Nigeria leaders and top bureaucrats are setting bad examples of self-enrichment or ambiguity over public ethics thereby promoting the lower levels officials and members of the public into corrupt practices" (p. 211). In 2007, nationwide corruption survey in the Nigeria Corruption Index (NCI), identified Nigerian Police as the most corrupt organisation in Nigeria, followed by the Power Holding Company of Nigeria (PHCN). The Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC) and NNPC were also among the known corrupt institutions (Abimbola, 2007).

Table 1: Factors influencing corruption in Nigeria

| S/N | FACTORS | DETAILS |
|------------|---|--|
| 1 | Wage consideration | * Inadequate pay * Fringe benefits and other financial incentives |
| 2 | Inefficient internal control | * Inadequate supervision and control systems * Lack of explicit standard of performance for employees and organisations * Poor recruitment and selection procedures for personnel * Too few or too many (non-transparent) rules and procedures |
| 3 | Insufficient external control | * Law and order tradition, checks and balances * Lack of information made available to the public and freedom of press * Mechanism for citizens participation and complaint * Difficulty of proving cases in courts * High social acceptance of corruption |
| 4 | Statutory penalty rate | * Amount of fine, prison sentence * Administration sanctions * Penalty for relatives * Prohibition of being re-employed in the public sector |
| 5 | Amount of distortions or opportunities in the economy | * Pervasive government regulations * High statutory tax rates, non-transparent tax regulations * Provision of government services short of demand |
| 6 | Other factors | * Cultural factors * Leadership * Ethnic diversity * Culture of bureaucratic elitism & education of civil servants |

Source: Rotimi et al, (2013, p. 6).

2.5 Effects of corruption in Nigeria

Several scholars have analysed the correlation between corruption and economic growth in Nigeria and how it affects community development. Uma & Eboh (2013) argue that corruption in Nigeria has choked industrialisation and infrastructural provision. The poor state of electricity, transport and communications are major barriers for doing business in the country. Corruption has hindered the government's ability to provide the needed social amenities like clean water supply, sanitation, healthcare, education etc. and has caused deficiency in power supply and good road network (Ikezue & Alawari, 2015). Thus, poor school environments with lack of learning facilities and improperly equipped health centres were the perceived consequences of corruption on the development of Nigerian communities. Researchers like Ilechukwu (2014) stresses that corruption poses a serious developmental challenge in both the political realm and legislative bodies. Hence, it undermines democracy and good governance by subverting formal process and reduces accountability in policy making. Ilechukwu (2014) further asserts that corruption in Nigeria had discouraged foreign investments and reduced resources meant for infrastructural development. In the judiciary it compromises the rule of law and result in inefficient provision of services in public administration, coupled with Improper documentation of files and records, police extortion on highways, and election malpractices (p. 95).

Ola et al (2014) argue that corruption causes decrease in the level of foreign direct investment and loss of viable business by Nigerian banks. It diminishes national prestige and respect and causes most Nigerians to be treated with suspicion in business transactions, thereby making innocent Nigerians to suffer the stigma of corruption due to stereotyping (p. 213). Corruption exaggerates poverty and affects mostly the people earning lower income because it pulls resources from national treasures and put it into the bank account of few individuals who are politically powerful. According to World Bank Group (2018), over 70% of Nigeria population live on less than \$1.90 per day, i.e. extreme poverty.

2.6 Transparent Governance

Transparency relates to values of accountability and trust because it allows citizens to monitor the quality of public services and encourages public employees to satisfy citizens. The existing literatures on transparent governance argue that “increased government accountability and transparency, enhanced public participation in decision making, strengthened public sector and civil society institutions, and greater adherence to the rule of law will not only improve governance but will help counter corruption” (Lawal, 2007, p. 2). Transparency International defined transparency as

“shedding light on rules, plans, processes and actions, it is knowing why, how and how much”. They explain that transparency ensures that public officials, managers, business people, board members etc. act visibly and understandably, and report regularly on their activities. That means that the public can hold them to account on day to day running of administration (Transparency International, 2018). Thus, transparency is the surest way of defending against corruption, it also helps to boost trust in the people on future governance. Transparency and trust have been argued by scholars to moderate the relationship between corruption and community development, with believe that transparency will reduce governmental malfeasance through its open effect (Park & Blenkinsopp, 2011).

The relationship between transparent governance and citizens satisfaction has been strongly emphasized on open flow of information. In the past, many government administrations have only provided information on request based on their own discretion, now they are being requested to engage in more active disclosure i.e open government (Sandoval-Almazán, 2015). Asian development Bank (1995) cited in Park & Blenkinsopp (2011) define transparent governance as “the availability of information to the general public and clarity about government rules, regulations and decisions” (p. 256). Ball (2009) suggests that transparency include accountability in public disclosure about good governance. The growing demand for transparency is based on the fundamental moral rights in democratic societies. It is done by ensuring the people’s right to have access to governmental information without obstruction and encourages public employees to satisfy citizens (Ball, 2009). Florini (2007) argues that government transparency is one of the practical measures taken to curtail corruption. It acts as deterrent against corrupt behaviour by encouraging citizens vigilance, trust and accountability, and discouraging public officials from misusing civil service to attain private gain. Transparent governance is characterised by independent judicial system, freedom of thought and expression, accountability and reliability, justice and equity. It ensures that the citizens especially the poorest have the basic needs of life. Poverty eradication, job creation, infrastructural development, better living-environmental standards, public trust in politicians are some determinants of transparent governance (Rahman, 2016).

World Bank cited in Rahman (2016) describe good governance as “management of a country’s resources and affairs in a manner that is open, transparent, accountable, equitable, and responsive to people’s needs” (p. 45). They further argue that the aim of good governance should be to promote effective institutions towards supporting economic growth of any country. Other scholars argue that governance is good and transparent when it serves not just the public interest but focus mainly on the poor and marginalised people in the society, and its impacts leads to sustainable development (Florini, 2007; Lawal, 2007). United Nations Development Program (UNDP) cited in

Rahman (2016) assert that “good governance among other things meant participatory, transparent and accountable, it’s also effective and equitable, and it promotes the rule of law. It ensures that the voices of the poorest and the most vulnerable are heard in decision-making over the allocation of development resources” (p. 46). UNDP identify nine core characteristics of good and transparent governance. they include:

1. **Participation:** Everyone should have a voice in decision-making, either directly or through legal institutions that represents their interest, and such participation should be built on freedom of association and speech, and capacity to participate positively.
2. **Rule of Law:** Legal frameworks should be enforced impartially, especially the law on human rights. Impartial enforcement of these laws requires an independent judiciary and incorruptible police force, and government decisions must be founded in these laws. It also ensures governance that is free from collecting incentives through corruption, favouritism etc.
3. **Transparency:** free flow of information, procedures and institutions are directly accessible and provided to those concerned to understand and monitor them.
4. **Responsiveness:** Institutions and process should serve peoples interest.
5. **Consensus Orientation:** Policies and Procedures of good governance negotiates different interests to reach a general agreement on what’s the best interest of the people.
6. **Equity:** Everyone should have equal opportunities to improve or maintain their well-bring.
7. **Effectiveness and Efficiency:** Institutions must produce best results that meet the needs of the people while making best use of resources.
8. **Accountability:** Decision-makers in government, the civil society organisations and private sector are accountable to the public and institutional stakeholders.
9. **Strategic Vision:** Leaders and the people should have a long-term perspective and understanding on the necessity for good governance and human development, coupled with understanding of the historical, cultural and social complexities of its foundation. *Source: (Rahman, 2016).*

Transparent governance is the effect of open government i.e open the government, by this we are talking about openness of governmental data, archives and information. Openness is the direction while transparency is the road. Sandoval-Almazán (2015) asserts that “open government must be understood as technological platform that turns government data into open data in order to allow their use, protection and collaboration by the citizens in process of public decision making, accountability and improvement of public services” (p. 10). Hence, open government must work with technology platforms to ensure government data are free and can easily be shared and findable, the citizens can

be able to utilise them for decision making, and obviously increase accountability of public administration processes. However, some scholars cite about caution by arguing the negative aspects of transparency, such as violation of privacy, cost of disclosure and revelation of government sensitive information (Prat, 2006, p. 91). Chambers (2004) posit that although publicity is an important principle in democratic governance, but secrecy rather than publicity is often needed to ensure high quality of planning. Sandoval-Almazán (2015) argues that transparent government is not as simple as it looks because the possibility of reorganizing and opening governmental data for citizens in an accessible way without affecting the private information or exposing sensitive data that can harm the State functions becomes a difficult task. Consequently, Bac (2001) discusses that transparency requires free media and accountability to function effectively, thus without enabling these conditions higher transparency may increase the level of corruption in a country by making it clearer who can be bribed to gain something (p. 7).

2.6.1 Increasing transparency in governance

It is generally believed that increased transparency in governance is a vital element of good governance according to Pope (2005). The more informed citizens are, the more important role they play in dialogue with their governments. However, this does not imply that the citizens are entitled to know everything about the operatives of their government. Pope (2005) suggests that there should be clear definition to what is going on to the public, and also there should be clear reasons for any secrecy, reasonable to the public interest and not just interests of the leaders in power (Pope, 2005). This freedom of information for the people is based on the article 19 of the universal declaration of human rights which states that “everyone has the right to seek, receive and impart information and ideas through any media and regardless of frontiers” (United Nations 1948, cited in Bauhr & Nasiritousi, 2010, p. 3). Despite increase of attention the principle of transparency has gained in recent years from many scholars, international organisations and government alike, yet many governments continue to rule in secrecy. Studies have shown that effective implementation of transparency requires the bureaucrats to see the benefits of transparency (Bauhr & Nasiritousi, 2010). At the same time, the focus of this study is on what happens after transparency norms have been introduced to a country.

Florini (2002) reports that Sweden was the first country to implement the model of public access to information into its basic law in 1766, and today they are among the most effective practitioners of transparent governance worldwide according to TICPI 2018. Finland in 1951 adopted the formal legislation with its Publicity of Documents Act. The United States followed with the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) in 1966 which was later strengthened in 1974. Consequently, by

1990s, many countries began to deliberate the desirability of increasing government transparency with 12 countries implementing FIOAs. In Africa, South Africa showed powerful transparent interest with its provision in their 1996 constitution (Florini 2002, p. 19-20). In May 2011, Nigeria signed the FOIA into the country law with the following explanatory note:

“This act makes public records and information more freely available, provide for public access to public records and information, protect public records and information to the extent consistent with the public interest and the protection of personal privacy, protect serving public officers from adverse consequences for disclosing certain kinds of official information without authorisation and establish procedures for the achievement of those purposes” (Nigeria Freedom of Information Act, 2011).

The United Kingdom in an effort to hold its public servant to high standard, introduced a broad code of behaviour for those in public service in 1994. The seven principles can be applied generally regardless of political, historical or cultural differences, and have been adopted by many countries (Pope, 2005). It state:

Table 2: United Kingdom Seven Principles of Public Life

| | |
|----------------|---|
| Selflessness | Holders of public office should take decisions solely in terms of the public interest. They should not do so in order to gain financial or other material benefits for themselves, their family, or their friends. |
| Integrity | Holders of public office should not place themselves under any financial or other obligation to outside individuals or organisations that might influence them in the performance of their duties. |
| Objectivity | In carrying out public business, including making public appointments, awarding contracts, or recommending individuals for rewards and benefits, holders of public office should make choices on merits. |
| Accountability | Holders of public office are accountable for their decisions and actions to the public and must submit themselves to whatever scrutiny is appropriate to their office. |
| Openness | Holders of public office should be as open as possible about all the decisions and actions that they take. They should give reasons for their decisions and restrict information only when the wider public interest clearly demands. |
| Honesty | Holders of public office have a duty to declare any private interests relating to their public duties and take steps to resolve any conflicts arising in a way that protects the public interests. |

| | |
|------------|---|
| Leadership | Holders of public office should promote and support these principles by leadership and example. |
|------------|---|

Source: (Pope, 2015, p. 2-3).

Towards fighting corruption and increasing transparency in governance in Africa, the African Union (AU) on 28th January 2018 presented its theme of the year during the opening ceremony of the 30th Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the African Union. The title is “Winning the Fight Against Corruption: A Sustainable Path to Africa’s Transformation”. It was officially launched by President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria Mr. Muhammadu Buhari at AU headquarters Addis Ababa Ethiopia (African Union, 2018). President Buhari pledged to do his best to ensure that the anti-corruption agenda will progress and make the impact everyone anticipated for this year and beyond. Thus, he asserts “corruption is indeed one of the greatest evil of our time. Corruption rewards those who do not play by the rules and also creates a system of distortion and diversion thereby destroying all the efforts at constructive, just and fair governance” (African Union, 2018, p. n.a). He added that the AU 2018 convention provides a good starting point to review the progress made so far, and to assess what’s needed to devise new strategies towards tackling corruption and establishing transparent governance. President Buhari highlights that corruption and its effects poses real threat to national security, unity and survival of the African State and its people (African Union, 2018).

Thus, the African Union Agenda 2063 recognizes that “corruption erodes the development of a universal culture of good governance, democratic values, gender equality, respect for human rights, justice and the rule of law”. However, the United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development Goal 16, demands all countries “to promote and develop accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels, notably, by reducing bribery and corruption”. in this connection, President Buhari emphasized that a Judiciary which stands firm against injustice by the executive is important for anti-corruption fight. Therefore, the leaders must cooperate with the Executive, Legislative and Judicial arms of government in order to establish good governance, transparency and accountability (African Union, 2018).

Towards increasing government accountability and transparency and strengthening civil society institutions in Nigeria, the National Judicial Council (NJC) through the Chief Justice of Nigeria (CJN) “Walter Onnoghen” strategizes to set up looters court (Adegboyega, 2017). The court will be established to specifically deal with the case of corrupt practices which linger for long in Nigerian courts and sometimes end up not being attended to. The CJN directed the court heads to assemble and forward the comprehensive list of all corruption and financial crime cases in their

various courts to the NJC. Thus, the looters courts will be established specially to handle those cases effectively nationwide (Adegboyega, 2017). On the issue of corrupt judges, the CJN according to Adegboyega (2017) asserts “it is not going to be business as usual for the few unscrupulous elements in our midst. I am determined to redeem the unfairly battered image of the judiciary and any judicial officer found wanting would be dealt with decisively and shown the way out swiftly” (p. 17). He also warned accusers and members of the public who believe that the best way to get good judgement is to bribe judges to desist from such act because the giver and the taker of bribes are guilty under the law.

2.7 Community Development

Development is the creation of things that people value. It involves economic, social and environmental improvement, coupled with sustainable desired environment and a social system that encourages collaboration, equity and freedom (Cavaye, 2001, p. 111). Egbe (2014) concluded that development must necessarily include the reduction of poverty, illiteracy, disease, malnutrition, unemployment etc. Its main objective is aimed at transforming the life of the people in the communities from living in poverty and being victims of ignorance into satisfied human beings that will be able to earn an income capable of sustaining a good living standard for themselves and their families. Cavaye (2001) argues that development within a community depends on some interdependent components which includes adequate infrastructure needed to support economic activity and community life, and efficient delivery of services that allows local economy and social system to function (p. 111). The concept of community development (CD) has been used in different contexts by different scholars. A more comprehensive definition of community development was expressed in the guideline of the International Co-operative Administration of the United States cited in Udu & Onwe (2016). According to the agency, community development is “a process of social action which the people of a community organise themselves for planning an action, define their common and individual needs and problems; execute these plans with maximum reliance upon community resources and materials from government and non-governmental agencies outside the community” (p. 298).

United Nations cited in Cavaye (2015) describe community development as “process where people are united with those of governmental authorities to improve the economic, social and cultural conditions of communities and communities are integrated into the life of the nation enabling them to contribute to national progress” (p. 4). Cavaye (2015) further argues that before community development can occur, the people in a community must believe working together can make a difference and organise themselves to address their shared needs collectively (p. 4). According to

Egbe (2014), community development is not only important for its impact in rural areas but also for its contribution to the overall development of a nation. Hence, in Nigeria where the majority of the people and land are rural, and where the level of community output is low, community development provides the quickest route to national development. From these definitions, community development involves total community life and needs, it engages participation of all the members of the community with government institutions in decision making, transparency and implementation. It also has to do with elimination of poor living conditions of life such as poverty, hunger, ignorance, sickness etc. to improve the standard of living of the local people.

Cavaye (2015) describes that the main benefits of community development such as employment opportunities and infrastructures can come through when the local people change their attitudes and utilize existing opportunities, think differently about problems and make use of community resources in new ways. CD improves the situation of a community, not only by economy, but also as a strong functioning community itself. It is through local people participation that they rethink about their problems and expand contacts and networks, they learn new skills, develop new economic possibilities both physical and financially towards improving their environment (Cavaye, 2015, p. 2).

2.7.1 Community Development Practice

Bonye, Aasoglenang & Owusu-Sekyere (2013) viewed community development practice as a means of mobilising communities to join states initiatives that are targeted at alleviating poverty, solving social problems, strengthening families and achieving innovation and socio-economic development. Delivering the social needs of the people and empowering groups of people is also vital for CD practice. CD practice is driven by internal or external or both factors in as much as the State and Non-State actors have interest in the development of communities, they will have impact in CD through capacity building and resource flows (Bonye et al, 2013). Based on this sense they further argue that “community development sponsorship may emanate from organised citizens group, a particular profession, an NGO, an institution, or a state agency, or a combination of these” (p. 87). Thus, people must be empowered in order to meet their basic needs of food, housing, health, transport, education, employment, increased per capita etc. This have to come from State (the government) and Non-State actors (Non-governmental organizations NGOs, charitable organisations etc.), which requires transparency and corrupt free to be successful.

Some of the concepts important in improving community development practice include:

Participation in Community Development – Participation in CD has to do with involving the people who will be affected by same decision to contribute in implementing and monitoring those decisions. Participation leads to efficiency, effectiveness and equity when the community members are allowed to take part in project formation, planning, implementation, monitoring and evaluation, with the goal of empowering the beneficiaries to be independent in the quest for developing themselves and the entire community (Bonye et al, 2013, p. 87-88).

Empowerment – Bonye et al. (2013) describe empowerment in CD as “an inner driven process in which individuals actively measure their own challenges and put out plans to address them, and ultimately accept responsibility for the results therein” (p. 88). An empowered person or community needs no external influence to make good choices or seek alternatives. In CD, the local people are empowered when they are continually mobilised and are given opportunity to freely participate in activities initiated to improve their wellbeing (Bonye et al, 2013, p. 88).

Mobilization – Mendes (2008) explains mobilization in CD as the process bringing together and empowering the community members to raise awareness for a particular development programme. It can have development impact by understanding the felt needs of the community. Mobilization can be perceived for instance, when the community elders, local government or non-state actors mobilize their subjects to take up community projects such as road and market construction, education services, provision of farming equipment, pipe-borne water supply etc.

CHAPTER THREE: THEORETICAL BACKGROUND

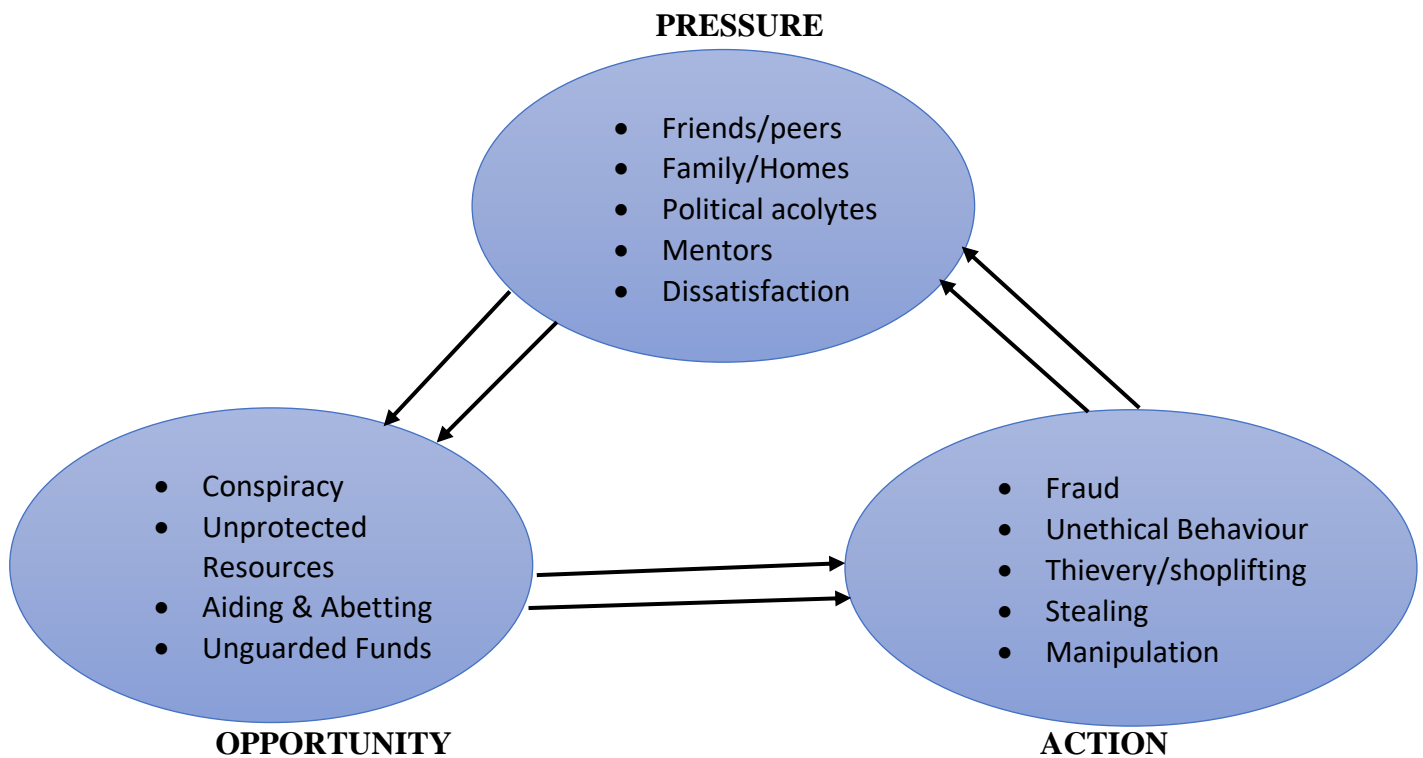
3.0 Introduction

There are a lot of theories that have been used to justify the effects of corruption on community development, and how transparent governance can moderate the identified corruption impacts and improve development. However, this study adopts kpakpin corruption model, freedom of information theory, and decentralization due to their direct explanation to the context of the study.

3.1 Kpakpin corruption model

Kpakpin corruption model was developed by Rotimi, Mathew, Lawal and IseOlorunkanmi in 2013 to explain the trio channel through which fraud or corrupt practices manifests. From figure 5 below, they argue that for any form of corruption to occur, the trio channel (Pressure, Opportunity and Action) must be accessed and realized (Rotimi et al, 2013). The components could be internal and external or even both. The pressure from internal is endogenous, deliberate and intentional, such pressure is caused by appetite for reckless spending lifestyle and greed which the earnings or income cannot satisfy. The pressure from external is exogenous, which includes pressure from friends, relatives, political followers, religious group members and community group members. The cause is as a result of trying to meet the expectations and aspiration of the groups rather than self-benefit, which in doing so involve corrupt practices. When any opportunity is found, action is struck (Rotimi et al, 2013). Hence, kpakpin theory asserts that “corruption occurs as a result of uncontrollable pressure giving room for opportunity for the purpose of an action to be struck for the accomplishment of fake fame” (Rotimi et al, 2013, p. 11). This theory is essential to this study because it explains the means through which corruption manifests in Nigeria and Africa as a whole. Greed, pressure from peer groups, relatives etc. are argued to be the causes of corruption.

Figure 3 shows *kpakpin* corruption model



Source: (Rotimi et al, 2013, p. 10).

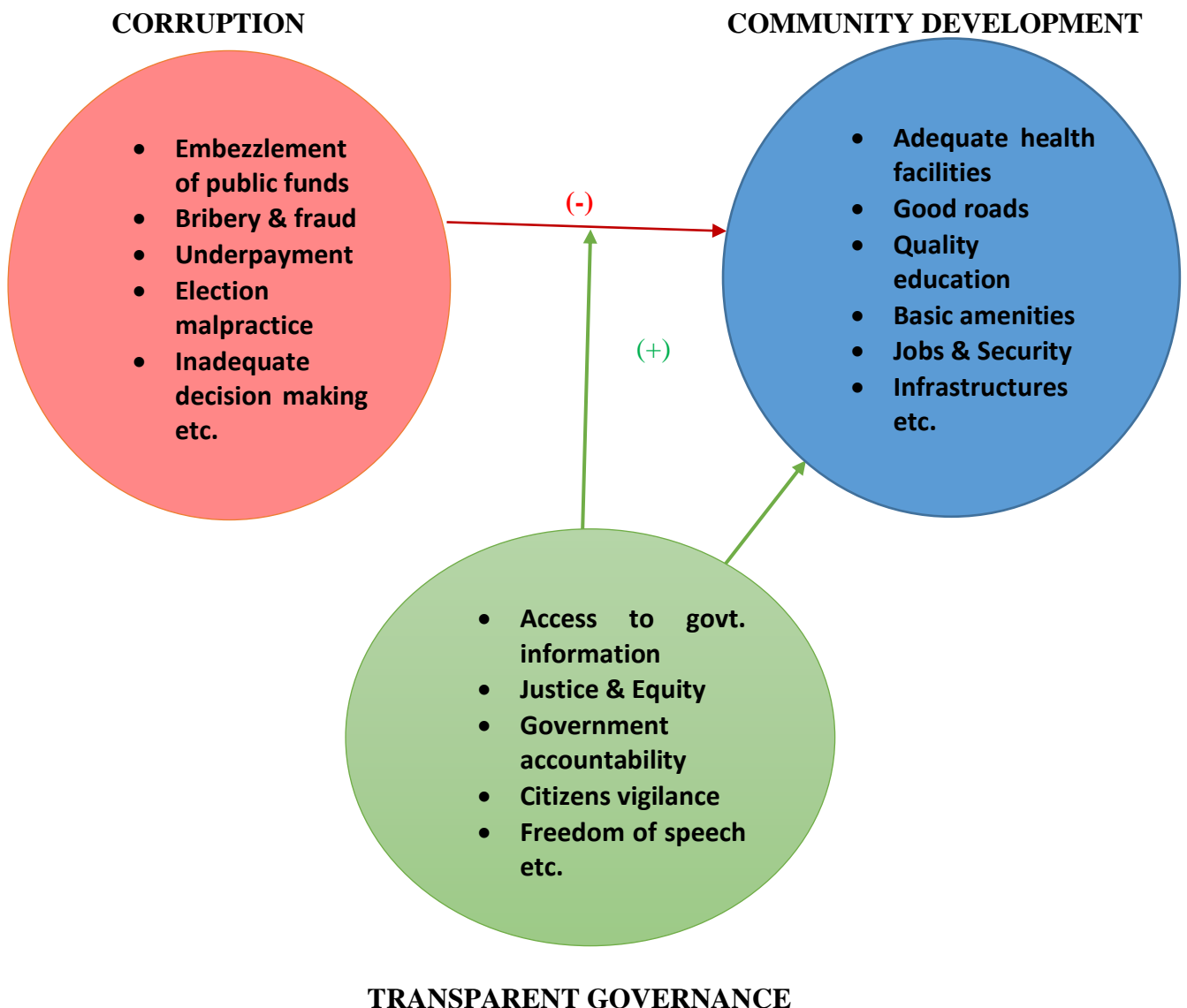
3.2 Freedom of information theory

Freedom of information theory is based on open government and information i.e. the citizens right to access governmental information. Its argument is centred on democracy because freedom of information is part of the freedoms granted by democracy (Sandoval-Almazán, 2015). According to Richardson (1973) cited in Sandoval-Almazán (2015), the theory states that “freedom of information is a basic component of the democratic process; according to this idea called right to know, it becomes the opposite to governmental secrecy” (p. 3). Hence, one of the main advantage of this transparent governance theory as argued by Sandoval-Almazán (2015) is that greater exchange of information with citizens would force the government to be more careful because they might be monitored by the people and thus reduce corruption. He further explains that freedom of information is the basis to understand the roots and idea of a more open and transparent government for the citizens, which has overtime turned to concrete concepts that represent democratic freedom in open government (p. 5). This theory is relevant to this study because it enhances open flow of information which will enable the citizens to monitor the activities of bureaucrats, which could be used to judge whether the interests of the people are being served by the government. It can also increase good governance by encouraging effective public-policy making and prevention of public funds embezzlement by government officials because their activities are monitored by the public.

3.3 Decentralization

Decentralization is the process of distributing power between the central government, and the regional and local governments, the central government transfers power, functions and competences to the regional and local governments at the grass roots (Bonye et al, 2013). Decentralization is crucial to community development by establishing participatory democracy in which the citizens of a locality are directly involved in the process of both local governance and development. Decentralization is crucial to this study because it has been argued to create opportunity for the local people in the community to take part in collective decision making and gain access to political authority; It promotes local development with the participation of the local people in governance to improve the living conditions in the community (Bonye et al, 2013).

Figure 4: Conceptual framework of the study



Based on literature, I conceive that corruption has negative effects on the development of communities. Corruption will hinder availability of adequate health facilities, good roads, quality education basic amenities, employment opportunities, adequate security infrastructures etc. and thus increase poverty, same as argued by many scholars (Ikezue & Alawari, 2015; Transparency International, 2018; Ibraheem et al, 2013; Nwankwo, 2014 etc.). Transparent governance is the effective tool for reducing the impacts of corruption and corrupt practices, which will contribute positively to and enhance community development, as argued by many scholars and school of thoughts (Florini, 2007; Rahman, 2016; Park & Blenkinsopp, 2011 etc.). Hence, findings from this study will also examine through lenses of the above conceptual framework to confirm its on-ground applicability in Nando and Aguleri community.

CHAPTER FOUR: METHODOLOGY

4.0 Introduction

This chapter focuses on the methodological choices of the study, as influenced by the study's main research objective and research questions. The section also presents the research strategy and design, scope of the study, sampling considerations, data collection, coding procedure and analysis, ethical considerations, and encountered limitations.

4.1 Research strategy and design

This study used qualitative research method and a case study design. According to Bryman (2012), “qualitative researchers are more influenced by interpretivism and they express a commitment to viewing events and the social world through the eyes of the people that they study” (p. 399). Consequently, Hennink, Hutter & Bailey (2010) point out that qualitative research is an approach that allows you to identify issues from the perspective of your study participants and understand the meaning and interpretations that they give to behaviour, problem or events (p. 8). I therefore used qualitative research strategy to find out how the people of Nando and Aguleri perceived the effects of corruption on the development of their community. Also, how they perceive transparent governance as an instrument to reduce corruption and promote trust between them and the government towards enhancing development of their community. The research questions stated below, and interview guides was used to collect information about this study from the community.

Case study design was used in this study. Bryman (2012) explains that the most common use of the term “case” links the case study with a location, such as community or organisation (p. 67). This research therefore used Aguleri and Nando community as a single case of the study. Authors like Baxter & Jack (2008) argue that case studies should be used when “you want to cover contextual conditions because you believe they are relevant to the phenomenon under study” (p. 545). Bryman (2012) further argues that case study allows for a detailed contextual depth investigation of the problem under study, it also help in understanding the attitudes, behaviours, and experiences of the people within the local setting (p. 70). Corruption and transparent governance have been a common discussion in Anambra State, Nigeria especially on its effects on the development of communities. This context qualified Nando and Aguleri community as a feasible case to investigate the research topic. Yin (2013) opines that when research questions require an intensive and “in-depth” description of social phenomena, as case study is relevant (p. 4). This study has research questions of this nature:

What are the perceived corrupt practices in Nando and Aguleri community of Anambra State? Where and at what level does the local people think that corrupt practices occur? What are the perceived consequences of corrupt practices in Nando and Aguleri community of Anambra State? According to local people's perceptions, what are needed to minimize corruptive practices? To which extent do People believe that transparent governance is a precondition to improve the socio-economic conditions in Nando and Aguleri? These questions required obtaining details from the study participants as well as providing in-depth description that match using case study design for this research.

4.2 Scope of the study

The study was conducted in Nando and Aguleri community in Anambra East local government area of Anambra State, Nigeria. The target population were the inhabitants of the community comprising of the traditional/community leaders, family heads, women and youths of different statuses (i.e. rich, poor, literate, non-literate etc.). Others were the Anambra East local government elected officials and employees. The field work was spread over a period of eight weeks covering the targeted population sample.

4.3 Research sampling and Sample size

A sample is “the segment of the population that is selected for investigation” (Bryman, 2012, p. 187). Author like Mbabazi (2008) argues that sampling is not necessary if the population is small (p. 36), but for the large population of Nando and Aguleri community, sampling was required. Bryman (2012) asserts that “in qualitative research based on a single case study the researcher must first select the case or cases; subsequently, the researcher must sample units within the case” (p. 417) Nando and Aguleri community being a case, sample respondents were selected from five groups; (a) traditional/community leaders, (b) family heads, (c) community women, (d) community youths, (e) local government elected officials/employees. Over their experience with the phenomenon of the study.

Given (2008) argues that in qualitative research, the concern is about the richness of the information, and therefore sample size is not a determinant of research significance. Hence, in this research, I did not initially specify the exact sample size but collected data from the five groups until *saturation*, i.e. when no new information is coming up. By the time I reached the saturation point, I had interviewed total of 62 respondents. The details of the actual numbers per group of people I interviewed are given in the data collection subsection 4.5 below.

4.4 Sampling method

Purposive sampling was used in this study. Bryman (2012) describes purposive sampling as “the type of non-probability sampling whose goal is to sample cases/participants in a strategic way, so that those sampled are relevant to the research questions that are being posed” (p. 418). Based on this type of sampling technique, Anambra East local government elected officials and employees were selected as participants in the study because of their knowledge about the research topic. Members of the community which comprised of the traditional/community leaders, family heads, community women and the youths were also selected as participants in the study because of their experience and relevance to the research questions.

4.5 Data collection

The data collection tools used in this study were interviews (52 respondents), focus group discussions (two meetings) and participant observations. Desai & Potter (2006) emphasize that interviews need to target various kind of people who might have different opinions or perceptions based on their own experiences or context. One of the main objectives of qualitative research method is to ask open-ended questions that are relevant to answering the research questions; by listening, observing and recording what the participants said without any bias or interference from the interviewer (Ngoka, 2014, p. 29). This is because participants perspectives are meaningful and can elicit relevant data for the study. According to Bryman (2012), “the emphasis of semi-structured interview must be on how the interviewee frames and understands issues and events; that is, what interview views as important in explaining and understanding events, patterns, and forms of behaviour” (p. 471). It allows respondents to discuss and raise issues that the researcher might not have considered, which will be recorded with the consent of the participant (Ngoka, 2014, p. 30).

Therefore, I used semi-structured interview to collect data from five categories of respondents. They include 8 traditional/community leaders, 8 family heads, 10 community women, 17 community youths, and 9 local government elected officials/employees. At this point, data was just repeating, and I stopped. Thereafter, I went for focus group discussion with 10 local commoners, thus making a total of 62 respondents. The interviewees were able to put aside some time for an interview upon my request. Field notes were used to record both observation and interviews. My notes were used to specify key dimensions of whatever I observed or heard. Audio recording was also used during interview. According to Bryman (2012), a recording device can be another useful addition to the participant observer’s hardware. He further explained that wandering around with a note book and pencil in hand on continuous bases runs the risk of making people self-conscious, audio recording

can assist during interview (p. 448). Thus, I used Samsung galaxy mobile to record some interview response. I seek their consent in the first place because it is considered unethical to just record participants without seeking their permission, which also allowed them to speak freely knowing the recordings were for academic purpose.

As stated above, I used Focus group discussions to collect more data, but this time from groups and not individuals. According to Bryman (2012), focus group method is “a form of group interview in which there are several participants (in addition to the moderator/facilitator); there is an emphasis in the questioning on a particular fairly tightly defined topic; and the accent is upon interaction within the group and the joint construction of meaning” (p. 502-504). He further explains that focus group offers the researcher the opportunity to study the ways in which people collectively make sense of a phenomenon and construct ideas around it (p. 504). Thus, I had two focus group sessions with total of 10 respondents (2 men, 4 women, and 4 youths of equal gender). This was beneficial in learning more about the collective opinions of the community members and their perception about the study. I also used participant observation to observe behaviours, listen to what is said in conversations and ask questions in the community in respect to the context of the study. Bryman (2012) explains that “the participant observer/ethnographer immerses him or herself in a group for an extended period of time, observing behaviours, listening to what is said in conversations both between others and with the fieldworker, and asking questions” (p. 432).

4.6 Coding procedure and analysis

The data I collected and transcribed were analysed using NVIVO software which allowed coding responses and driving new ideas. According to Corbin & Strauss (2015), Using software to code in qualitative research is universally used to develop an efficient data reduction and thus increase reliability. I first conducted data cleaning by extracting useful data for the analysis after transcription. I then uploaded the data in NVIVO to reorganise it using automatic coding into sentences and paragraphs. *See appendix 4 for more details.* Query command was used to conduct data exploration before coding relevant information in the data into themes. This was done before analysis.

Hence, deductive qualitative analysis (DQA) approach was used for the study. Creswell & Plano (2007) argue that “the deductive researcher works from the ‘top down’, from a theory to hypothesis, to data to add to or contradict the theory” (p. 23). So, to support or contradict the study propositions, I deductively coded data in relation to themes together with theorised research questions. The interview was decomposed into data to deductively develop coding statements into sentences and paragraphs. I then labelled the paragraphs with close codes from the list of existing themes and examined the themes for new ideas and also developed sub-themes (i.e. axial coding).

How each sub-theme are related to each other was identified (i.e. selective coding). I later constructed narratives from the codes and themes (i.e quotes from interview to support relationship between ideas). *See details in appendix 5.* The codes applied in this study are close, axial and selective codes to support or reject study propositions.

Figure 5: Data exploration



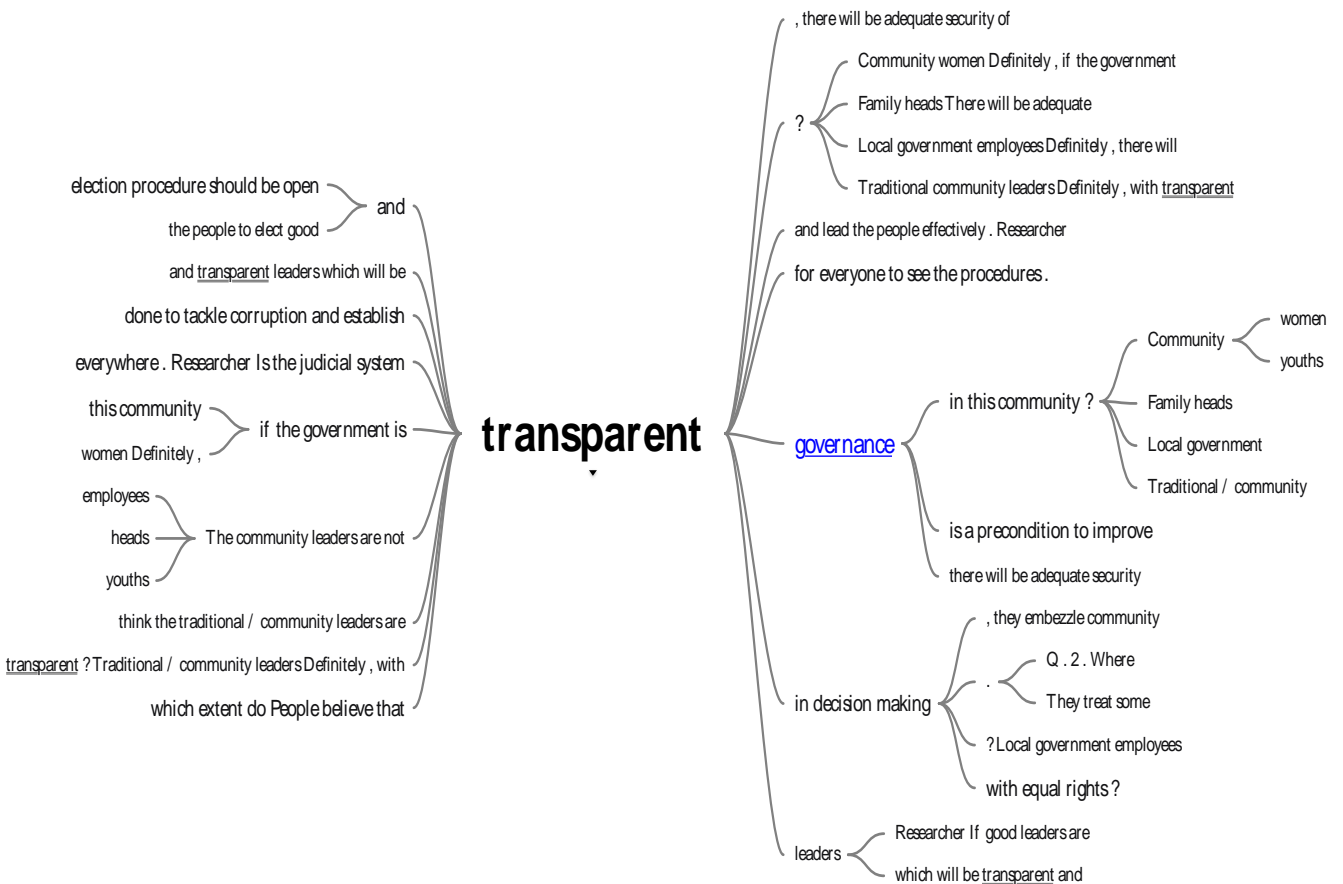
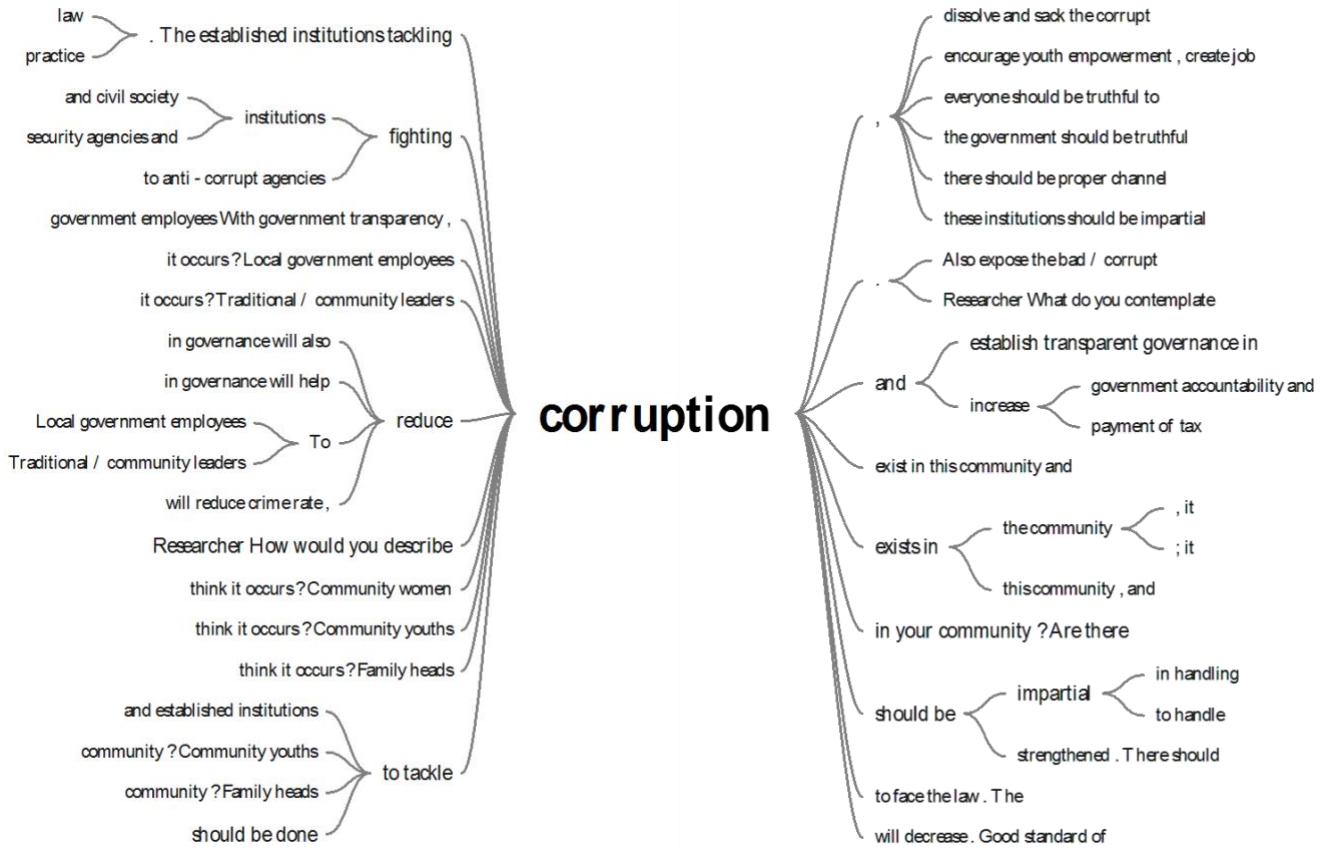


Figure 6: Coding map for coding process

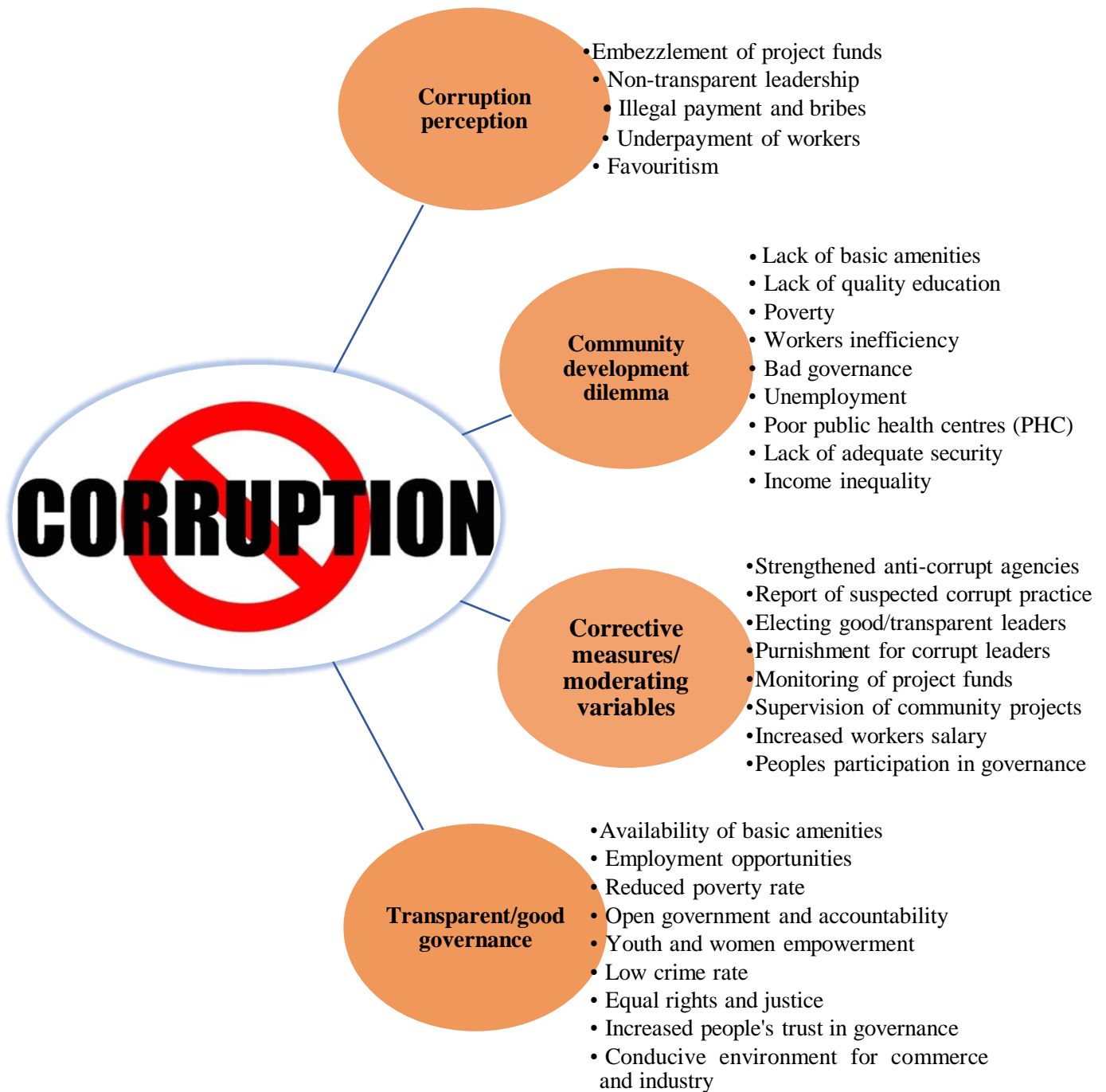


Table 3: Coding example – Selective code base on Axial codes

| Axial codes | Selective code |
|--|---------------------------------|
| <p>Traditional/community leaders “The money meant for community development projects is not efficiently used, the contractors use small part of the project money to do work that is not up to standard, and then embezzle others”.</p> <p>Traditional/community leaders “It is in existence; some people offer bribes and gifts to gain job contracts, positions and favours from government, and it bad because it leads to unqualified personnel handling job positions or project”.</p> <p>Community youths “The community leaders are not transparent in decision making. They treat some people special and disregard some”.</p> <p>Community women “Corruption exist in this community and occurs at all levels, including the youths, the women, family heads, local government workers, and mostly among the leaders”.</p> <p>Community Youths “There are no good government schools in this community, we don’t have many good teachers and the school fees are also high”.</p> <p>Community youths “The roads in this community are not up to good standard, coupled with little clean water supplies”.</p> <p>Community women “The government is not trusted because they don’t care about the wellbeing of the people”.</p> <p>Local government employees “The local government workers are not efficient in their jobs, they lack motivation to work because of low salary”.</p> <p>Community women “There are health centres in this community, but they lack medical equipment and good facilities”.</p> <p>Family heads “There are no jobs for the people, unemployment is everywhere”.</p> <p>Traditional/community leaders “Only few people can provide food and shelter for themselves, the majority are suffering and living in poverty”.</p> | <p>Citizens dissatisfaction</p> |

| | |
|--|--|
| <p>Traditional/community leaders “To reduce corruption, there should be proper channel and established institutions to tackle corruption, these institutions should be impartial to handle corrupt cases”.</p> <p>Community women “Electing good leaders in governance will help reduce corruption. Also, expose the bad/corrupt leaders and convict them according to the law to face justice”.</p> <p>Local government employees “Anyone caught in mismanagement and embezzlement of public funds should be punished according to the law. Workers salary should be increased to minimise temptation of stealing public funds”.</p> <p>Community youths “The citizens must have right to access government information, and monitor whether the people’s interest is being served by the bureaucrats”.</p> <p>Local government employees “Good governance will bring improvements in the community which includes; stable electrical supply, employment opportunities, modern schools with education facilities, free education, good roads, quality health care facilities etc.”</p> <p>Community youths “If the people are provided with basic amenities, it will reduce crime rate, reduce corruption, encourage youth empowerment, create job opportunities for others, increase peace, security and prosperity of the community”.</p> | |
|--|--|

4.7 Ethical considerations

Ethics in research means principles, guidelines, and rules of moral behaviour which a researcher should uphold during a study. It is very important that the study ensured a good moral and social standard in its interactions with the research participants. Bryman (2012) asserts that “ethical issues cannot be ignored, as they relate directly to the integrity of a piece of research and of the disciplines involved” (p. 130). In this study, the respondents’ choice of voluntary participation and withdrawal was observed. Based on the sensitivity of the topic, the respondents’ identities were left anonymous. This injunction according to Bryman (2012), was explained that care need to be taken when findings are published to ensure that the respondents identity is anonymous (p. 136). The study ensured that the participants were aware of the purpose of the research, which is purely for academic purposes. This helped them to decide whether to participate in the research or not, thus the research was conducted with maximum safety of the participants in mind and no deception was involved. The respondents did not suffer any harm in the form of stress, pain, anxiety or low self-esteem.

Further, I sought a research introductory letter from my department in the University of Agder, Norway which I used to introduce myself to respondents to show that I am a student and need their support to complete my studies. Also, I presented the introductory letter to the Head of local government administration of Anambra East local government area, who sanctioned my study (sanction letter attached in appendix). Most times I had to first show the letter to sceptical respondents to feel comfortable and provide information to the study, which they complied.

4.8 Encountered limitations

This study faced some limitations during its conduct and they were mostly at the community. The first was planning for the whole exercise, which is very important in order to take care of the time constraints, budget and study materials. Planning involves thinking about the future, so you can start its process now. Sometimes everything doesn't work according to plan, but if the plan was properly done, the possibility to make adjustments without terminating the whole exercise will be higher (CIVICUS, 2001). In the context of this study, it involves stating out in details the time frame it will take to start and finish each stage of the study, the cost of the study materials, transportation expenses and other logistics needed to carry out the study.

Despite having a study plan, it took me a lot of time to carry out the research; it was mainly due to the concurrence of same time for data collection fieldwork and time of the community beginning of new farming season. The situation affected availability of some participants from the community and some of the scheduled interviews and focus discussion were rescheduled. Nando and Aguleri community is relatively academically new and so there is not much literatures about it. Consequently, it was difficult to get some information such as maps of the study community and profile information about the local government area. The community is a rural area where communal feud has made it difficult for a stranger to find an accommodation among the inhabitants. This made the researcher to travel long distances to access the study area. The cost of these journeys increased the research budget and affected the data collection process since the researcher had to make repeated visits to the community.

CHAPTER FIVE: EMPIRICAL FINDINGS AND ANALYSIS

5.0 Introduction

To repeat, this study has been directed by five-research questions: What are the perceived corrupt practices in Nando and Aguleri community of Anambra State? Where and at what level does the local people think that corrupt practices occur? What are the perceived consequences of corrupt practices in Nando and Aguleri community of Anambra State? According to local people's perceptions, what are needed to minimize corruptive practices? To which extent do People believe that transparent governance is a precondition to improve the socio-economic conditions in Nando and Aguleri? According to this study, I developed a conceptual framework based on theories and literature and used semi-structured interview, focus group discussions, and participant observation to investigate five groups in the community; (a) traditional/community leaders, (b) family heads, (c) community women, (d) community youths, (e) local government elected officials/employees. Over their experience with the phenomenon of the study. The data obtained in the interview described similar and different approaches to the developed framework. I have used pseudonyms and titles to present findings from the respondents to ensure that they remain anonymous. The next section is focused on my findings and interpretation according to the coded responses. The responses were obtained in the interview which I uploaded in NVivo to reorganise it into sentences and paragraphs using automatic coding. I then labelled the paragraphs with close codes from list of existing themes, and deductively coded the data in relation to themes together with research questions. *More details in appendix.*

5.1 The perceived corrupt practices in Nando and Aguleri community of Anambra State

The responses from the people I interviewed identify some key factors that are perceived as corrupt acts in the community.

Quotation: Traditional/community leaders *“The money meant for community development projects is not efficiently used, the contractors use small part of the project money to do work that is not up to standard, and then embezzle others”*.

Quotation: Family heads *“The money meant for community development projects is not efficiently used, the contractors embezzle some part of the project money”*.

Most people confirmed that the funds being provided by the federal and state government for Nando and Aguleri community development projects such as construction of roads, pipe-borne water supply, government schools, public health facilities and equipment, electricity etc. is not efficiently used. The

contractors that are awarded the project end up embezzling the project money for private gain, and not completing the project the money is meant for. Thus, some use little part of the funds to do inferior work that is not up to standard just to cover up, of which after a few years the project will stop functioning.

Picture 1: Uncompleted road construction and bad roads in Nando and Aguleri community.



Source: Author (Fieldwork, February 2018).

Quotation: Community youths *“The community leaders are not transparent in decision making. They treat some people special and disregard some”*.

Quotation: Family heads *“the community leaders are not transparent in decision making”*.

Some people revealed that the leaders of Nando and Aguleri community are not transparent in decision making, they treat high influential people special and disregard the common ones. The main reason for this claim is because of the leaders’ favouritism for some people seen as more valuable in the community such as family members, friends, wealthy people etc. and discrimination of some people that are felt to be less important in the community such as the poor and less privileged.

Quotation: Community women *“Some political candidates offer bribes to gain people’s votes, and it is bad”*.

Quotation: Traditional/community leaders *“It is in existence; some people offer bribes and gifts to gain job contracts, positions and favours from government, and it bad because it leads to unqualified personnel handling job positions or project”*.

Quotation: Community youths *“It is in existence; some people offer bribes to gain contracts and favours from leaders”*.

This study found out from many people that illegal payment and bribes exist in the community, some of the political candidates offer rewards and gifts to the people in order to gain their vote and support during election. Also, some applicants offer bribes and gifts to gain favours from governments, such favour can be winning project contracts, jumping the queue to get job positions and getting special treatment from authorities. Such act can lead to unqualified people executing project contracts or handling job position rather than qualified personnel.

Quotation: Local government employees *“Local government workers salary is paid regularly but it does not cover our needs”*.

Quotation: Local government employees *“Anambra East local government has not employed anyone for the past 3 years”*.

The Anambra East local government employees revealed that their salary is paid regularly, but it does not cover their basic needs, i.e they earn low and insufficient income that is not enough to satisfy their needs. Also, there is no availability of job position or employment opportunity in Anambra East local government area. In summary, my findings show that corruption is evident in Nando and Aguleri community. The perceived corrupt practices are mismanagement and embezzlement of community project funds, non-transparent leadership, favouritism, illegal payment and bribes, and underpayment of workers. This is consistent with Adewale (2011) cited in Ibraheem et al. (2013)’s argument that “corrupt practices inherently introduce distortions in the economic system, it impairs hard work, diligence and efficiency, and it is capable of diverting resources meant for the development of the society to private or personal use” (p. 49). The consequences of these corrupt acts will be discussed in section 5.3 below.

5.2 Where and at what level the local people think that corrupt practices occur

Having found out the corrupt practices that exist in the community, this study focuses on identifying where and at what level the people think that these corrupt practices occurs.

Quotation: Family heads *“The local government workers are not efficient in their jobs, some don’t even go to work”*.

Quotation: Community leaders *“No, the local government workers are not efficient in their jobs, they only care about their salary”*.

According to this study, all of the people I interviewed assert that Anambra East local government area workers are not efficient in their jobs, this is because of their nonchalant attitude to work duties. Hence, no community project has been completed by the local government for the past 3 years, and this implies that they don't care about the well-being of the people.

Quotation: Community women *“Corruption exist in this community and occurs at all levels, including the youths, the women, family heads, local government workers, and mostly among the leaders”*.

Quotation: Community youths *“Corruption exists in the community, it is very bad, and it happens everywhere, including the youths, the women, the local government workers, the family heads. It occurs mostly among the community leaders”*.

The perception of corruption is quite common in the community and everyone clearly understand it as a problem. The people claim that corruption occurs at all levels in the community and can be noticed clearly. However, some people like the youth, the women and the local government workers state categorically that corruption occurs mainly among the leaders, this is because the leaders abuse their power and community funds for personal interest.

Quotation: Local government employees *“The community leaders are not transparent in decision making, they embezzle community project funds”*.

Quotation: Local government employees *“The judicial system is very corrupt with lack of equal rights and justice for everyone”*.

The leaders are the ones that make the final decisions in the community, of which many see their decision making as not being transparent enough. The judicial system has also been labelled as being corrupt due to their lack of equal rights and justice for everyone, and collection of bribes to grant favour in court cases. The results reveal that corruption exists at all level in Nando and Aguleri community involving anyone that indulge in such act. For instance, collection of bribes or offering of rewards is noticed among the youth, the community women, the family heads, the local government workers, and the community leaders. But, the people believe that corruption occurs mostly among the leaders because they are the ones that are entrusted with public funds, of which they embezzle and mismanage for private gain. This finding is supported by Ajie & Wokekoro (2012) argument that corruption occurs in varying levels in different countries and with overwhelming effects on political and socio-economic development.

Picture 2: Focus group discussions with some community women and community youths



Source: Author (Fieldwork, January 2018).

5.3 The perceived consequences of corrupt practices in Nando and Aguleri community of Anambra State

One of the major reason this study was conducted is to investigate the effects of corruption on community development which have been argued by scholars to have devastating effects. Having identified the corrupt practices and where it occurs in Nando and Aguleri community, this study progress to discuss the findings on the perceived consequences of corruption on the development of the community.

Quotation: Community Youths *“There are no good government schools in this community, we don’t have many good teachers and the school fees are also high”*.

Quotation: Family heads *“There are lack of good government schools in this community, we have good teachers, but the school fees are very high”*.

This study finds out that there are no good government schools in the community, with little or non-highly skilled teachers which is hindering access to quality education. Some of the families prefer to send their children to private schools in order to obtain quality education, but the school fees are expensive and not many people can afford it.

Quotation: Traditional/community leaders *“There are no good roads in this community, and little clean water supplies”*.

Quotation: Community youths *“The roads in this community are not up to good standard, coupled with little clean water supplies”*.

As highlighted in section 5.1 and picture 1 above, the roads in the community are poor and not up to good standard, coupled with little clean water supplies due to lack of boreholes and inadequate water supply. This study argues that the money meant for these community projects are embezzled or mismanaged by the public official and contractors, thereby resulting to these negative effects.

Picture 3: *Poor state of education infrastructure and lack of education facilities in the community.*



Source: Author (Fieldwork, February 2018).

Quotation: Community women *“The government is not trusted because they don’t care about the wellbeing of the people”*.

Quotation: Traditional/community leaders *“Only average trust for the government because they embezzle funds meant for community development projects”*.

In the above quotes, this study evidently show that corruption has caused lack of local people’s trust and participation in governance. The people do not feel comfortable with the government because they believe their welfare is being ignored by the bureaucrats who end up sustaining their own private gain. In the Nigerian democratic system, the communities and regions have individuals who

represents their interest in the house of assembly (state government level), house of representative and senate house (National Assembly level). However, the people of Nando and Aguleri community asserts that their interest have not been served by their representatives who do not care about the wellbeing of the community, and thus, they are not trusted.

Quotation: Traditional/community leaders *“There are health centres in this community, but they lack medical equipment”*.

Quotation: Community women *“There are health centres in this community, but they lack medical equipment and good facilities”*.

In the health sector, the community is not capable of providing adequate medical equipment and treatment because of poor primary health centres (PHC). For instance, the drugs and vaccines needed for treatment of diseases is not sufficient and the medical facility is in bad shape. *As shown below.*

Picture 4: *Poor condition of primary health centre (PHC) in Nando and Aguleri community*



Source: Author (Fieldwork, February 2018).

Quotation: Local government employees *“The electrical power supply is not constant. The distribution company collects energy levies but won’t give steady electricity”*.

Quotation: Community youths *“There are no electrical power supply in this community”*.

This study also finds out that there is no constant electrical power supply in the community. The people complain that the electrical distribution company collects energy levies but end up not

providing electrical power supply for the people. This has led to non-payment of tax and levies due to its mismanaged fund and non-provision of services.

Quotation: Local government employees *“Anambra East local government has not employed anyone for the past 3 years”*.

Quotation: Family heads *“There are no jobs for the people, unemployment is everywhere”*.

Quotation: Local government employees *“The local government workers are not efficient in their jobs, they lack motivation to work because of low salary”*.

From the above quotes and my observation in the community, there is lack of employment opportunities for the people in the community especially the youths. Unemployment is everywhere, and the people struggle to afford their primary needs. Thus, to find a means of survival many of the families engage in agriculture and fishing as a means of subsistence in order to provide food, shelter and clothing for themselves and their family. Also, I find out that the local government area has not employed anyone for the past three years, in investigating more about the local government workers inefficiency, the local government employees assert that their salary is not sufficient enough and thereby they lack the motivation to function more capably. According to this study, underpayment of Anambra East local government workers has led to their inefficiency.

Quotation: Family heads *“The judicial system is very corrupt with no equal rights and justice for everyone”*.

Quotation: Community youths *“Everyone is not treated equal in this community”*.

Furthermore, this study identified that weak judicial system and unequal human right exist in the community as a consequence of corruption. Having highlighted earlier, non-transparent leadership and favouritism have resulted in influential people being treated special and the common man disregarded.

Quotation: Traditional/community leaders *“Only few people can provide food and shelter for themselves, the majority are suffering and living in poverty”*.

Quotation: Community women *“Only few people can provide food and shelter for themselves and their family, life is hard in this community, many people are suffering and living in poverty”*.

Quotation: Local government employees *“Yes, there is need for free education because of the high poverty level, many students drop out from school because they can't afford school fees”*.

Almost all the people I interviewed affirm that on a general basis there is high rate of poverty in the community. Majority of the people are suffering and can barely provide three square meals for themselves, some of the students drop out from school because their parents cannot afford to meet up with the school fees. Therefore, the people request the need for free education, scholarship opportunities and empowerment programmes. This is coherent with BBC (2012) argument that over

70% of Nigeria population live on less than US\$1 a day and absolute poverty, measured by those who can hardly afford the basic essential needs of life i.e. shelter, food and clothing.

Picture 5: Lack of adequate housing in Nando and Aguleri community.



Source: Author (Fieldwork, January 2018).

Quotation: Community women *“The community is not fully secured”*.

Quotation: Community youths *“No adequate security in this community”*.

Going by the results of the study, adequate security of lives and property is limited in the community because of consequence of corruption. Corruption affects security of a country, state or community as a result of unavailable defence equipment, ammunitions, technology and services needed to report and fight crime and safeguard the region. The tools and funds meant for provision of these services are misused or stolen by the officials in charge, and also underpayment of the security officers like the police, army, navy etc contribute to laxity in performance of duties. For instance, as highlighted in the literature review, Boko Haram has continued to wreak havoc in north-eastern Nigeria because Sambo Dasuki and Olisa Metuh stole more than US\$2 billion meant for purchase of weapons and other equipment needed to fight the terrorists (Foreign Policy, 2015; Gaffey, 2016). Although the youth of Nando and Aguleri admits that they help in security of the community, but the people also reveal that the community is not fully secured due to non-adequate security system and the police not being proficient enough.

Quotation: Family heads *“There is a huge gap between the rich and the poor, the rich are getting richer while the poor suffers more”*.

Quotation: Local government employees *“There is a huge gap between the rich and the poor, the rich are wealthier while the poor suffers more”*.

Additionally, income inequality has become a problem in the region because of unequal distribution of resources, the rich are becoming wealthier while the poor suffers more with a huge gap difference. Consequently, the findings of this study have shown that corruption is a serious problem for the people of the community. Its consequences have retarded the development of Nando and Aguleri community through lack of infrastructures, unemployment, poverty, lack of basic amenities, lack of adequate security, unequal human rights etc. with urgent need to eradicate the problem. These findings correlate with Ilechukwu (2014) analysis that corruption in Nigeria has largely undermined economic growth, discouraged investments and reduced resources available for infrastructural development, community services and poverty reduction programs.

5.4 The local people's perceptions on what are needed to minimize corruptive practices

According to this study, corruption is a serious problem because it has hindered the development of Nando and Aguleri community. This study investigates the local people's perception on what is needed to be done to eradicate corruption from the society and establish transparent governance.

Quotation: Traditional/community leaders *“To reduce corruption, there should be proper channel and established institutions to tackle corruption, these institutions should be impartial to handle corrupt cases”*.

Quotation: Community youths *“Report any suspected corrupt person to anti-corrupt agencies fighting corruption to face the law. The established institutions fighting corruption should be strengthened and impartial in handling corrupt cases”*.

Quotation: Community women *“The public sector and civil society institutions fighting corruption should be strengthened”*.

The people believe that the established anti-corrupt institutions should be strengthened, so as to operate at maximum efficiency and impartial in handling corrupt cases. Also, any suspected corrupt practice should be reported to these anti-corrupt institutions for investigation and charges. As discussed in literature, the main legal instruments used to fight corruption in Nigeria today are the Economic and Financial Crimes Commission (EFCC) and Independent Corrupt Practices Commission (ICPC) established in the year 2000. They were charged with the responsibility of prohibiting the public officials from maintaining or operating foreign accounts, declaration of assets of public officials immediately after taking office and at the end of their terms. Additionally, investigating, arresting and charging offenders with corrupt practice or financial crimes to law court

(Ola et al, 2014). However, the operations of these agencies have been criticised for condoning corruption involving high influential politicians and some cases in the law court not been attended to. Therefore, the people assert that to reduce corruption, these agencies and the law court should be strengthened to operate at maximum capacity and impartial in investigating reported corrupt cases.

Quotation: Community women *“Electing good leaders in governance will help reduce corruption. Also, expose the bad/corrupt leaders and execute them according to the law to face justice”*.

Quotation: Traditional/community leaders *“Having good leaders in governance will also reduce corruption and increase government accountability and transparency”*.

Quotation: Community youths *“To tackle corruption, everyone should be truthful to each other. Fish out the bad leaders and punish them and put the good ones into governance”*.

Quotation: Family heads *“Increasing free and fair electoral process will enable more people vote their choice of good leaders. The election procedure should be open and transparent for everyone to see the procedures”*.

Quotation: Community youths *“Sack or suspend the corrupt leaders from work”*.

From the quotation above, the people centred on good leadership and transparent governance to assist in reducing corruption. Electing good leaders in government will fortify government accountability and transparency. This can be achieved through increasing free and fair electoral process which will enable more people to participate in election and exercise their franchise. Open electoral procedures will enable the people to monitor the election processes and hence, reduce election malpractices. This correlates with Sandoval-Almazán (2015)'s freedom of information theory as a basic component of democratic process. Sacking corrupt leaders from public service and punishing them according to the rule of law will create space for good leaders to take over and lead the people transparently.

Quotation: Local government employees *“To reduce corruption, the government should be truthful from the head to the tail and stop taking bribes”*.

Quotation: Community women *“The government should be honest and fulfil their development promises. The people should be included to participate and take part in governance and decision making”*.

Quotation: Family heads *“To increase the people's trust in governance, involve the youths in governance and decision making. Eliminate over age workers and include the youths in government”*.

In addition to reducing corruption, truthfulness and honesty will play a key role for good governance by enabling the elected politicians to fulfil the campaign promises made to the people. Applying the United Nations seven principles of public life by holders of public office as presented in *table 2* will promote integrity and help curb illegal payment and bribes. The people also think that they should be

included to participate in governance because it will enable them to partake in decisions regarding the wellbeing of their community. This perception correlates with decentralisation theory of this study which argues that the local people participation in governance will enable them gain access to political authority and take part in collective decision making about their community towards improving the living conditions of the community (Bonye et al, 2013). Local people's participation will also increase the people trust in government and create opportunity for the youths. Over age workers are considered as incapable who should be retired for the young ones with fresh vision to control the government.

Quotation: Community youths *“Anyone caught in mismanagement and embezzlement of public funds should be punished according to the rule of law and send to prison, it will serve as an example for others to earn and desist from corrupt acts”*.

Quotation: Local government employees *“Anyone caught in mismanagement and embezzlement of public funds should be punished according to the law. Workers salary should be increased to minimise temptation of stealing public funds”*.

To minimize mismanagement and embezzlement of public funds, this study found out from the people's perception that anyone found guilty of stealing public funds should be punished according to the rule of the law and possibly send to prison. The punishment will serve as a warning for others to desist or not indulge in such act. For example, the former Taraba State governor of Nigeria, Jolly Nyame was sentenced to 14 years imprisonment on May 31, 2018 by Federal Hight Court in the Nigeria capital, Abuja. He was convicted of 27 out of 41 charges and found guilty of looting 1.64 billion-naira, equivalent to US\$12.2 million public funds (Okakwu, 2018). Mr Nyame authorised the fraudulent transfer of these funds from the state's treasury when he was governor of the state between 1999 to 2007 to a company for purchase of office equipment and stationeries which were never delivered. The judge ordered immediate return of forfeited funds back to Taraba State treasury and hoped the sentence would serve as a warning to other public officials (Okakwu, 2018). The local government employees argue that worker's salary should be increased to reduce the temptation of bureaucrats stealing public funds, this is because inadequate salary and lack of fringe benefits give rise to fraud.

Quotation: Traditional/community leaders *“To minimise embezzlement of funds, sources of wealth must be questioned. There should be supervision of projects and monitoring of funds”*.

Quotation: Community youths *“Sources of bureaucrats' wealth should be questioned. There should be accurate supervision and monitoring of projects and monitoring of funds meant for community projects”*.

Accurate supervision and monitoring of community projects and its funds will enable quality projects completion, the budget for such project will be fully utilised because the progress is well monitored. Also, the people think that sources of bureaucrats' sudden wealth should be questioned, having declared their assets to EFCC before resuming office, any extravagant expenses should be investigated.

Quotation: Family heads *“Everyone should respect and recognise the right of everyone. The judicial system should practice equal rights and justice for everyone. There should be freedom of thoughts and expression”*.

Quotation: Community youths *“The citizens must have right to access government information and monitor whether the people's interest is being served by the bureaucrats”*.

This study discovered that strengthening the judicial system will promote equal rights and justice for everyone which is one of the elements of good governance and impartial handling of corrupt cases. Freedom of thoughts and expression is a core principle of human right which the people believe will grant access to government information and also reduce corruption. Results indicate that monitoring the activities of bureaucrats could be used to judge whether the interests of the people are being served by the government, same as argued by this study's freedom of information theory. Based on the study findings, the people perceived election of good leaders which can be achieved through credible free and fair electoral process to establish transparent governance. Strengthening anti-corrupt institutions, reporting any suspected corrupt practice, punishing corrupt leaders, monitoring of community projects and its funds, enabling the people's participation in governance, freedom of thoughts and expression etc. will reduce corruption and fortify good governance in Nando and Aguleri community.

5.5 Extent the People believe that transparent governance is a precondition to improve the socio-economic conditions in Nando and Aguleri?

Another main purpose of this study is to find out the extent the local people believe transparent governance as a precondition to improve the socio-economic conditions of the community. This study argues that transparent governance will moderate the identified effects of corruption through the variables discussed in *section 5.4*. Thus, the people believe that transparent governance is a prerequisite to the development of Nando and Aguleri community through the following means:

Quotation: Community women *“With government transparency, citizen's participation and trust in the government will be back. It will enable more people to participate in elections and support good/honest leaders that will lead the people effectively”*.

Quotation: Community youths *“Government transparency and accountability will increase people's participation and trust in the government. It will enable the people elect good and transparent leaders”*.

Quotation: Local government employees *“With government transparency, corruption will decrease. Good standard of living will increase for the people including infrastructural development in the community”*.

Quotation: Traditional/community leaders *“Yes, if the government is doing the right thing there will be increase in payment of tax and levies, and more people will participate in elections”*.

Government transparency and accountability is perceived to increase citizen’s participation and trust for the government, increasing the people’s ability to elect more good leaders who will work for the wellbeing of the people through infrastructural development and provision of basic amenities. Once the people feel recognised by the government, their support will increase for the administration through payment of tax and other levies.

Quotation: Family heads *“If good leaders are elected into the government, there will positive changes and improvements in the community which includes; stable electrical supply, job opportunities, modern schools, scholarship opportunities for students, good roads, good water supply etc.”*

Quotation: Local government employees *“Good governance will bring improvements in the community which includes; stable electrical supply, employment opportunities, modern schools with education facilities, free education, good roads, quality health care facilities etc.”*

Quotation: Community women *“There will be availability of basic amenities in the community which includes; stable electrical supply, job creation for the youths, modern schools with education facilities, free education, good roads, quality health care facilities etc.”*

The people believe that having good leaders in government will bring positive changes, improvements and basic amenities for the community. These includes availability of stable electrical power supply, modern schools with educational facilities, job creation and employment opportunities, good roads, clean water supply, quality health care facilities, free education, women empowerment etc. These basic amenities will reduce poverty and improve the wellbeing of families.

Quotation: Traditional/community leaders *“If the people are provided with basic amenities, there will be low crimes rate, people will help/assist each other. Knowledge and competence will increase, and poverty rate will decrease”*.

Quotation: Community youths *“If the people are provided with basic amenities, it will reduce crime rate, reduce corruption, encourage youth empowerment, create job opportunities for others, increase peace, security and prosperity of the community”*.

Quotation: Community women *“If the people are provided with basic amenities, it will promote good behaviour and moral standard. It will create youth empowerment and skill acquisitions”*.

The findings of this study reveal that availability of basic amenities will reduce crime rate in Nando and Aguleri community and increase peace, good behaviour, security and prosperity of the region. It will enable the people to utilise the available resources and create more employment opportunities and acquisition of skills. Knowledge and competence will increase as well through access to quality education.

Quotation: Local government employees *“It will create conducive environment for commerce and industry”*.

The people also believe that transparent governance will create conducive environment for commerce and industry through establishment and stability of industries and marketplaces, boosts trade and investments. In summary, the results indicate that transparent governance and good leadership is a precondition to improve the socio-economic conditions of Nando and Aguleri community through provision of basic amenities, adequate security of lives and property, equal rights and justice, job creation, payment of tax and levies, enabling conducive environment for commerce and industries etc. This is essential for community development and moderation of corruption effects.

Picture 6: Promised construction of marketplaces by Anambra State government towards improvement of infrastructural development in Nando and Aguleri community.



Source: Author (Fieldwork, February 2018).

5.6 Concluding remarks

This chapter has presented, analysed and interpreted the study results. In section 5.1 and 5.2, It presented the perceived corrupt practices in Nando and Aguleri community of Anambra State Nigeria and where such corrupt acts occur. In section 5.3, it analyses the consequences of corruption on the development of the community which the study found out to have negative effects. Section 5.4 further analysed the measures needed to eradicate the problem from the society. Section 5.5 interpreted the extent the local people believe transparent governance as a precondition to improve the socio-economic conditions of the community. In summary, this chapter concluded that transparent governance can moderate the effects of corruption and improve the development of Nando and Aguleri community.

CHAPTER SIX: DISCUSSION, CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTIONS FOR FURTHER RESEARCH

6.0 Introduction

After the data analysis and interpretation of results in chapter five, this chapter presents the discussion of the study, summary and concluding comments and suggestions for further studies.

6.1 Discussion

This study offers logical analysis on the effects of corruption on the development of Nando and Aguleri community in Anambra East local government area of Anambra State Nigeria, and whether transparent governance can moderate the identified effects. In section 5.1, this study discovered that mismanagement and embezzlement of project funds, non-transparent leadership, favouritism, illegal payment and bribes and underpayment of workers were the perceived corrupt practices in Nando and Aguleri community. The results from my study indicate that these identified corrupt practices occur at all levels in the community including the community youths, community women, family heads, local government workers and mostly among the leaders. So, I argue that corruption and bad leadership exist in the community with consequences on its development. The causes of corruption in the community is argued to be as a result of greed, pressure from friends and family, appetite for reckless spending and the zeal to become rich overnight, and underpayment of some public officials. Therefore, when the leaders or contractors are entrusted with unguarded public funds for community projects, they end up stealing the funds and not completing the project its meant for, or sometimes doing low standard projects just to cover up to the public that something was done. This correlates with the study of Kpakpin's corruption model which argues that for any form of corruption to occur, pressure, opportunity and action must be assessed and realised from internal, external or both (Rotimi et al, 2013). The theory further asserts that the cause of corruption is as a result of trying to meet up the expectations and uncontrolled pressure, which in doing so engage in corrupt practices.

Underpayment of workers also give opportunity for collection of bribes because when a public officer is not earning sufficient income to cater for his/her needs, the person will always be tempted to collect bribes and gift from people before rendering services that are meant to be accessed free. For instance, there are rampant situation where those who work more earn less and those who work less earn more, thereby promoting vices like bribes, armed-robbery, kidnapping, deceit etc. (Uma & Eboh, 2013). Nigeria has one of the lowest minimum wage in the world with sum of 18,000 naira approximately (US\$50) monthly payment since 2011, while an average person is estimated to spend

not less than 30000 naira (US\$84) monthly excluding accommodation and electricity bills (Damilola, 2017). Despite the country being enriched with abundant natural resources, most people find it hard to survive and end up being tempted to engage in corruption because unsustainable income. In section 5.3, this study results perceived the effects of corruption in Nando and Aguleri community as lack of quality education, poor/bad roads, lack of adequate water supply, poor primary health centres (PHC), unemployment, bad governance, weak judicial system and income inequality. Others include lack of adequate security of lives and property, lack of electrical power supply, workers inefficiency, lack of people's trust in governance, non-payment of tax and levies and poverty which hinders development of the community. These findings are consistent with Uma & Eboh (2013) argument that corruption in Nigeria has choked industrialisation and infrastructural provision. The poor state of electricity, transport and communications are major barriers for doing business in the country. Ikezue & Alawari (2015) also assert that corruption has hindered the government's ability to provide the needed social amenities like clean water supply, sanitation, healthcare, education etc. and has caused deficiency in power supply and good road network. As predicted in the conceptual framework of the study, the results also correspond that corruption has negative effects on the development of communities and has hindered the availability of basic amenities and infrastructures. It is clearly seen that non-provision of these basic amenities is as a result of embezzled funds meant for such project. I argue that corruption thrives in a society where the public sector and civil institutions are weak, and government is not transparent.

Furthermore, to minimise these corruptive practices, this study reveals that bad leadership can be reduced through credible free and fair electoral processes which will enable the people to vote their choice of good leaders who will lead them efficiently. Strengthening anti-corrupt institutions will lead to standard operation of anti-corrupt agencies like the EFCC and ICPC, to handle corrupt cases impartially. Suspected corrupt practices should be reported to these anti-corrupt institutions immediately for investigation and charges. This can be done through writing complaint/petition with an evidence or fact of the case and submitting it to any of the ICPC offices nationwide or uploading it on their online portal created and accessible for the public (ICPC, 2018). Thus, whistleblowing is another means of reporting corrupt practice in Nigeria which enables anyone to expose any kind of activity deemed illegal within private or public organisation. The Nigeria Federal Ministry of Finance created a secure whistleblowing portal (both online and offices) through which information on violation of financial regulation, mismanagement of public funds, fraud and theft can be disclosed (Federal Ministry of Finance, 2016). The people believe that the corrupt leaders should be punished and possibly send to prison if found guilty of corrupt acts, it will also serve as an example for others to desist from such deeds and for those considering, not to indulge. Supervision and monitoring of

community projects and its funds will minimize embezzlement of public funds and enable quality projects completion by bureaucrats because the budget for such project will be fully utilised and the progress well monitored. From the foregoing, the finding correlate with this study's freedom of information theory which argues that monitoring the activities of bureaucrats could be used to judge whether the interests of the people are being served by the government. It can also reduce corruption by encouraging effective public-policy making and prevention of public funds embezzlement by government officials because their activities are monitored by the public (Sandoval-Almazán, 2015).

As noted that strengthening the judicial system will promote equal rights and justice for everyone including freedom of thought and expression which are part of the key elements of democratic governance. Some people also believe that increasing workers salary will help curb bribery and fraud because when the public officials earn adequate monthly income they will be able to provide their basic needs, it will reduce temptation of stealing public funds or collecting bribes to offer services. When these methods are set in place corruption will reduce in the community and transparent governance will be established. Study analysis indicates that having transparent governance is a precondition to improve the socio-economic situation of Nando and Aguleri community through provision of basic amenities and infrastructural development. These includes pipe borne water supply, modern schools with educational facilities, job creation and employment opportunities, good roads, quality health care facilities, stable electrical power supply, free education and women empowerment. These amenities can be achieved through quality completion of community projects and utilisation of funds meant for community development. As I anticipated in the conceptual framework of the study, results supported the notion that transparent governance is the effective tool for reducing the impacts of corruption, which will contribute positively to and enhance community development (Florini, 2007; Rahman, 2016; Park & Blenkinsopp, 2011).

Thus, I agree with the perception that when the people are provided with basic amenities, they will utilise it to create more employment opportunities, crime rates will reduce because everyone is engaged into jobs, knowledge and competence will increase, as well as good behaviours. Increment of worker's salary will enhance workers output, motivation and efficiency of their functions. The people believe that good governance will create conducive environment for commerce, industry and marketplaces in the community which will boost trade and investments. Results show that transparent governance will bring open government and information which will increase citizens access to government information and effective public policy making, equally argued by the study of freedom of information theory (Sandoval-Almazán 2015). The findings of this study corroborate with Akor

(2014) argument that the greatest solution to corruption is good governance, and whatever policies adopted by the government must be to promote good governance, accountability and transparency.

6.2 Conclusion and suggestions for further research

This study has established the fact that corruption is a serious difficulty which has continued to exist in our society. This study reviewed various literatures, and all pointed out that corruption is abundance in public and private sectors of Nigeria. Using semi-structured interview guides, focus group discussions and participant observation, I collected data from five different groups in Nando and Aguleri community of Anambra State Nigeria. With NVivo software, I coded and analysed data into coding statements, the results of the analysis show that the public in Nando and Aguleri community perceived corruption as a serious problem which occurs everywhere and must be stopped. Several factors such as embezzlement of public funds, underpayment of workers, illegal payment and bribes etc. were observed as the existing corrupt practices in the community, which have brought negative effects on the development of the region. These have caused countless hardship and poverty on the people of the community. Despite the abundant natural resources in the country, corruption has hindered the government efforts towards reducing poverty in Nigeria in general. It appears the problem has continued to spread without control. It is undeniable that no society is corrupt free especially in Africa where this study reviewed. However, this study found out that corruption can be moderated in Nando and Aguleri community through transparent governance which can be attained by electing good leaders. Also reporting suspected corrupt practices and punishment for its offenders, as well as supervision and monitoring of community project and its funds will help reduce corruption. The results revealed that perception of transparent governance and improvement of socio-economic factors could have a major impact to fortify anti-corruption practices and enhance the development Nando and Aguleri community.

Finally, this paper contributes to existing studies by identifying the perceived corrupt practices in Anambra East local government area of Anambra State Nigeria and its effects on the development of region. This study has also shown that transparent governance can moderate effects of corrupt practices even at a community level. The study has also identified the moderating role of transparent governance on the livelihood of the people which is important to help formulate pragmatic policies towards eliminating corruption and alleviating poverty. However, further research is recommended to be conducted in other states or region of Nigeria and Africa to reveal the perception of corruption and its ultimate eradication. Doing this will not only enhance community development, but will also ensure economic growth, political stability, peace and progress of African countries.

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APPENDIX

Research introductory letter with approval of local leadership



Date: 1 November 2017

Visiting Address:
Gimlemoen 17
Phone: +47 38 14 16 20
Fax: +47 38 14 10 28

To Whom It May Concern

Kenechukwu Obinna OFOCHEBE

This is to certify that Mr Kenechukwu Ofochebe from Nigeria is a *bone fide* student at the University of Agder, Norway. He is pursuing our MSc degree in Development Management and Planning. In connection with his master thesis, he is planning to do field work in Anambra State, Nigeria during January to February 2018.

We would be most grateful if he could be rendered any necessary assistance during the period of his fieldwork.

Yours Sincerely,



Christian Webersik
Professor
Department of Global Development and Planning



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What are the perceived corrupt practices in Nando and Aguleri community of Anambra State?

1. How many community development projects have been completed by the state/local government in the past 3 years?
2. Are there credible free and fair elections in the local government and community level?
3. I hear some people are giving out rewards to be voted for during election? How would you describe it?
4. Do you think the people will vote for a candidate who does not give them reward first?
5. I hear some people are paying money to get job contracts? How would you describe it?
6. Do you think the money meant for community development projects are efficiently used?
7. Are employments given to qualified candidates in your community?
8. Are the leaders making the right decisions and treating everyone equal?

Where and at what level does the local people think that corrupt practices occur?

9. Are the local government workers efficient in their jobs?
10. Are the women fully involved in the development and progress of the community?
11. What about the youths, how far have they contributed to the development of the community?
12. How would you describe corruption in your community? Are there corrupt practices in the locality? If yes, where do you think it occurs?

What are the perceived consequences of corrupt practices in Nando and Aguleri community of Anambra State?

13. Are there schools with modern facilities and high calibre of teachers in the community?

14. Are there good roads in the community? Do you have adequate clean water supply in the community?
15. Do you participate in voting during election? If yes, do you think your vote counts in the election results?
16. Do you trust and support the state and local government towards security and infrastructural development?
17. Do you feel secured and safe in this community?
18. Are the public health centres equipped with modern facilities and medical equipment?
19. Are you currently employed? Are there jobs available for the youths?
20. Is the judicial system transparent in decision making with equal rights?
21. Are there steady electrical (power) supply in the locality?
22. How would you describe the general standard of living in the community? Can the normal people provide primary needs (food, shelter, clothing and education) for their family?
23. Do you think there is need for free education?
24. How would describe the gap between the rich and the poor in the society? Is there a huge difference or appropriate?

According to the local people's perceptions, what are needed to minimise corruptive practices?

25. What do you think should be done to tackle corruption and establish transparent governance in this community?
26. What do you think should be done to enable the people to vote right and elect good leaders?
27. What do think should be done to promote equal rights and justice for everyone?

28. What do you think should be done to increase communication and report any suspected corrupt practice?
29. What do you contemplate should be done to curb mismanagement and embezzlement of public funds?
30. What should be done to increase the people's trust and participation in governance?

To which extent do People believe that transparent governance is a precondition to improve the socio-economic conditions in Nando and Aguleri community?

31. With government transparency and accountability, what do you think will be its positive impacts in the community?
32. If good leaders are elected into the government, will there be changes? If yes, what will be the improvements?
33. Will you participate in elections and pay taxes if the government is doing the right thing?
34. Do you think there will be adequate security of lives and property in this community if the government is transparent?
35. If the people (youths) are provided with basic amenities (stable electrical power supply, pipe borne water, free education etc.), how will it contribute to the development of this community?
36. How will government transparency create better living environmental standards in the community?

What are the perceived corrupt practices in Nando and Aguleri community of Anambra State?

1. Are you satisfied with your current salary? Does it cover your basic needs? Is the salary paid regularly?
2. How many community development projects have been completed by the state/local government in the past 3 years?
3. Are the development documents and records properly documented and stored?
4. I hear some people are giving out rewards to be voted for during election? How would you describe it?
5. Do you think the people will vote for a candidate who does not give them reward first?
6. I hear some people are paying money to get job contracts? How would you describe it?
7. How many staff were employed by the local government in the past 3 years?

Where and at what level does the local people think that corrupt practices occur?

8. Are the local government workers efficient in their jobs?
9. Do you think the traditional/community leaders are transparent in decision making?
10. Are the women fully involved in the development and progress of the community?
11. What about the youths, how far have they contributed to the development of the community?
12. How would you describe corruption in your community? Are there corrupt practices in the locality? If yes, where do you think it occurs?

What are the perceived consequences of corrupt practices in Nando and Aguleri community of Anambra State?

13. Are there schools with modern facilities and high calibre of teachers in the community?

14. Are there good roads in the community? Do you have adequate clean water supply in the community?
15. Do you participate in voting during election? If yes, do you think your vote counts in the election results?
16. Do you trust and support the state/local government towards security and infrastructural development?
17. Do you feel secured and safe in this community?
18. Are the public health centres equipped with modern facilities and medical equipment?
19. Are there jobs available for the youths?
20. Is the judicial system transparent in decision making with equal rights for everyone?
21. Are there steady electrical (power) supply in the locality?
22. How would you describe the general standard of living in the community? Can the normal people provide primary needs (food, shelter, clothing and education) for their family?
23. Do you think there is need for free education?
24. How would describe the gap between the rich and the poor in the society? Is there a huge difference or is it appropriate?

According to the local people's perceptions, what are needed to minimise corruptive practices and establish transparent governance?

25. What do you think should be done to tackle corruption and establish transparent governance in this community?
26. What do you think should be done to enable the people to vote right and elect good leaders?
27. What do think should be done to promote equal rights and justice for everyone?

28. What do you think should be done to increase communication and report any suspected corrupt practice?
29. What do you contemplate should be done to curb mismanagement and embezzlement of public funds?
30. What should be done to increase the people's trust and participation in governance?

To which extent do people believe that transparent governance is a precondition to improve the socio-economic conditions in Nando and Aguleri community?

31. With government transparency and accountability, what do you think will be its positive impacts in the community?
32. If good leaders are elected into the government, will there be changes? If yes, what will be the improvements?
33. Will you participate in elections and pay taxes if the government is doing the right thing?
34. Do you think there will be adequate security of lives and property in this community if the government is transparent?
35. If the people (youths) are provided with basic amenities (stable electrical power supply, pipe borne water, free education etc.), how will it contribute to the development of this community?
36. How will government transparency create better living environmental standards in the community?

4. Automatic coding for interview guides

RQ1. What are the perceived corrupt practices in Nando and Aguleri community of Anambra State?

Are you satisfied with your current salary? Does it cover your basic needs? Is the salary paid regularly?

Local government employees' Local government workers salary is paid regularly but it does not cover their basic needs.

How many community development projects have been completed by the state/local government in the past 3 years?

Community women Road construction and street lights.

Community youths Borehole water supply, renovation of some primary and secondary schools

Family heads Street lights and borehole water supply.

Local government employees No project has been completed by the local government in the past 3 years.

Traditional/community leaders Road construction, renovation of some schools and supply of speed boats in riverine areas.

Are there credible free and fair elections in the local government and community level?

Community women There have been credible free and fair elections

Community youths There have been credible free and fair elections.

Family heads There have been credible free and fair elections in the community.

Traditional/community leaders There have been credible free and fair elections (especially the last state governorship election conducted).

I hear some people are giving out rewards to be voted for during election? How would you describe it?

Community women Some political candidates offer bribes to gain peoples votes, and it is bad.

Community youths It is in existence; some political candidates offer bribes to gain peoples votes, and its bad.

Family heads It is in existence; some candidates offer bribes to gain peoples votes, and its bad.

Traditional/community leaders It is in existence; Some political candidates offer bribes to gain peoples votes.

Local government employees Some political candidates offer bribes to gain peoples votes, and it is bad

Do you think the people will vote for a candidate who does not give them reward first?

Community women Yes, some will vote especially for a good candidate, while some will not vote.

| | |
|--------------------------------------|---|
| <i>Community youths</i> | Yes, they will vote for a good leader who does not give reward. Some will collect reward someone and vote for another person. |
| <i>Family heads</i> | Yes, the people will vote for a good leader who does not give them reward. |
| <i>Traditional/community leaders</i> | Yes, some people will vote for a good candidate who does not give them reward, while some will not vote. |
| <i>Local government employees</i> | Yes, some people will vote especially for a good candidate who does not give reward, while some people will not vote. |

I hear some people are paying money to get job contracts? How would you describe it?

| | |
|--------------------------------------|---|
| <i>Community women</i> | It is in existence; some people offer bribes and gifts to gain contracts and favours. |
| <i>Community youths</i> | It happens; some people offer bribes and gifts to gain contracts and favours. It is bad because it encourages unqualified people to get jobs. |
| <i>Family heads</i> | It is in existence, some offer bribes and gifts to gain contracts and favours. |
| <i>Traditional/community leaders</i> | It is in existence; some people offer bribes and gifts to gain job contracts, positions and favours, and it is bad because it leads to unqualified personnel handling job positions or project. |
| <i>Local government employees</i> | It occurs; some people offer bribes and gifts to gain contracts and favours. |

Do you think the money meant for community development projects are efficiently used?

| | |
|--------------------------------------|---|
| <i>Community women</i> | The money meant for community development projects is not efficiently used, they use small part of the project money to do work that is not up to standard, and then embezzle others. |
| <i>Community youths</i> | The money meant for community development projects is not efficiently used, the contractors embezzle some part of the project money. |
| <i>Family heads</i> | The funds meant for community development projects is not well managed, some contractors embezzle some part of the project money. |
| <i>Traditional/community leaders</i> | The money meant for community development projects is not efficiently managed. |

Are employments given to qualified candidates in your community?

| | |
|--------------------------------------|--|
| <i>Community women</i> | There are no available employment opportunities. |
| <i>Community youths</i> | There are no available job opportunities. |
| <i>Family heads</i> | There are no available employment opportunities in this community. |
| <i>Traditional/community leaders</i> | There are no government jobs in this community. |

How many staff were employed by the local government in the past 3 years?

| | |
|-----------------------------------|---|
| <i>Local government employees</i> | Anambra East local government has not employed anyone for the past 3 years. |
|-----------------------------------|---|

Are the leaders making the right decisions and treating everyone equal?

| | |
|--------------------------------------|--|
| Community women | The community leaders are not treating everyone equal, they favour some and maltreat some. |
| Community youth | Community leaders are not transparent in decision making. They treat some people special and disregard some. |
| Family heads | Community leaders are not transparent in decision making. |
| Local government employees | Community leaders are not transparent in decision making, they embezzle community project funds. |
| Traditional/community leaders | The leaders are trying at the best of their ability. They lack the resources to be more efficient, and the people are not cooperating. |

RQ2. Where and at what level does the local people think that corrupt practices occur?

Are the local government workers efficient in their jobs?

| | |
|--------------------------------------|---|
| Community women | No, the local government workers are not efficient in their jobs, they only care about their salary. |
| Community youths | The local government workers are not efficient in their jobs. |
| Family heads | The local government workers are not efficient in their jobs, some don't even go to work. |
| Traditional/community leaders | No, the local government workers are not efficient in their jobs, they only care about their salary. |
| Local government employees | No, the local government workers are not efficient in their jobs, they lack motivation to work because of low salary. |

Are the women fully involved in the development and progress of the community?

| | |
|--------------------------------------|---|
| Community women | Yes, the women are trying, they built a town hall to support development |
| Community youths | Yes, the women are trying to support development, by keeping the community clean. |
| Family heads | Yes, the women are trying to support development. |
| Traditional/community leaders | Yes, the women are trying, they built a town hall to support development. |
| Local government employees | Yes, the women are trying, they help in cleanliness of the community, and assistance to widows. |

What about the youths, how far have they contributed to the development of the community?

| | |
|--------------------------------------|--|
| Community women | The youths help in security of the community. |
| Community youths | The youths have no jobs, but they help in security of the community. |
| Family heads | Youths help in cleanliness of the community, and security. |
| Traditional/community leaders | The youths are organized, but they have not done anything to support development of the community. |
| Local government employees | The youths help in security of the community. |

How would you describe corruption in your community? Are there corrupt practices in the locality? If yes, where do you think it occurs?

| | |
|---|--|
| <i>Community women</i> | Corruption exist in this community and occurs at all levels, including the youths, the women, the family heads, local government workers, and mostly among the leaders. |
| <i>Community youths</i> | Corruption exists in the community, it is very bad, and it happens everywhere, including the youths, the women, the leaders, the family heads, local government workers etc. It occurs mostly among the community leaders. |
| <i>Family heads</i> | Corruption exists in this community, and it occurs everywhere, including the youths, the women, the leaders, the family heads, local government workers etc. |
| <i>Traditional/community leaders</i> | Corruption exists in this community, and it occurs at all levels, including the youths, the women, the leaders, the family heads, local government workers etc. |
| <i>Local government employees</i> | Corruption happens in the community; it occurs at all levels, and mostly among the leaders. |

RQ3. What are the perceived consequences of corrupt practices in Nando and Aguleri community of Anambra State?

Are there schools with modern facilities and high calibre of teachers in the community?

| | |
|---|---|
| <i>Community women</i> | There are no good government schools in this community. |
| <i>Community youths</i> | There are no good government schools in this community, we don't have many good teachers and the school fees are also high. |
| <i>Family heads</i> | There is lack of good government schools in this community, we have good teachers, but the school fees are very high. |
| <i>Traditional/community leaders</i> | There are no good government schools in this community, only high school fees and below average teachers. |
| <i>Local government employees</i> | There are good schools with good teachers. |

Are there good roads in the community? Do you have adequate clean water supply in the community?

| | |
|---|--|
| <i>Community women</i> | There are no good roads in this community, and little clean water supplies. |
| <i>Community youths</i> | The roads in this community are not up to good standard, coupled with little clean water supplies. |
| <i>Family heads</i> | There are good roads in this community, and little clean water supplies. |
| <i>Traditional/community leaders</i> | There are no good roads in this community, and little clean water supplies. |
| <i>Local government employees</i> | There are good roads with clean water supply. |

Do you participate in voting during election? If yes, do you think your vote counts in the election results?

| | |
|--------------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Community women | Yes, and the vote counts. |
| Community youths | Yes, and the vote counts |
| Family heads | The vote counts |
| Traditional/community leaders | Yes, the vote counts |
| Local government employees | Yes, the voting is credible. |

Do you trust and support the state and local government towards security and infrastructural development?

| | |
|--------------------------------------|---|
| Community women | The government is not trusted because they don't care about the wellbeing of the people. |
| Community youths | Only average trust for the government. |
| Family heads | Only average trust for the government. |
| Traditional/community leaders | Only average trust for the government because they embezzle funds meant for community development projects. |
| Local government employees | The government is trusted and supported. |

Do you feel secured and safe in this community?

| | |
|--------------------------------------|---|
| Community women | The community is not fully secured. |
| Community youths | No adequate security in this community. |
| Family heads | Yes. |
| Traditional/community leaders | Yes, the community is quite secured. |
| Local government employees | The community is secured. |

Are the public health centres equipped with modern facilities and medical equipment?

| | |
|--------------------------------------|--|
| Community women | There are health centres in this community, but they lack medical equipment and good facilities. |
| Community youths | There are health centres in this community, but they lack medical equipment. |
| Family heads | There are health centres in this community, but they lack medical equipment. |
| Traditional/community leaders | There are health centres in this community, but the medical equipment and facilities are not satisfactory. |
| Local government employees | There are health centres in this community, but there is no adequate medical equipment. |

Are you currently employed? Are there jobs available for the youths?

| | |
|--------------------------------------|--|
| Community women | There are no jobs opportunity in this community, unemployment is everywhere. |
| Community youths | There are no jobs for the youths, unemployment is everywhere. |
| Family heads | There are no jobs for the people, unemployment is everywhere. |
| Traditional/community leaders | There are no jobs for the youths, joblessness is everywhere. |
| Local government employees | There are no jobs for the youths, unemployment is everywhere. |

Is the judicial system transparent in decision making with equal rights?

| | |
|--------------------------------------|---|
| Community women | The judicial system is very corrupt with no equal rights for everyone. |
| Community youths | Everyone is not treated equal in this community. |
| Family heads | No, the judicial system is very corrupt with no equal rights and justice for everyone. |
| Traditional/community leaders | The judicial system is corrupt with lack of equal rights and justice for everybody. |
| Local government employees | No, the judicial system is very corrupt with lack of equal rights and justice for everyone. |

Are there steady electrical (power) supply in the locality?

| | |
|--------------------------------------|---|
| Community women | Electrical power supply is not constant. The distribution company collects energy levies but won't give steady electricity. |
| Community youths | There is no electrical power supply in this community. |
| Family heads | Electricity is not constant in this community. |
| Traditional/community leaders | Electrical power supply is not constant. |
| Local government employees | Electrical power supply is not constant. The distribution company collects energy levies but won't give steady electricity. |

How would you describe the general standard of living in the community? Can the normal people provide primary needs (food, shelter, clothing and education) for their family?

| | |
|--------------------------------------|--|
| Community women | Only few people can provide food and shelter for themselves and their family, life is hard in this community, many people are suffering and living in poverty. |
| Community youths | The majority of the people are suffering and living in poverty. |
| Family heads | Only few people can provide food and shelter for themselves, the majority are suffering and living in poverty. |
| Traditional/community leaders | Majority are suffering and living in poverty. |
| Local government employees | Only few people can provide food and shelter for themselves and their family, the majority are suffering and living in poverty. |

Do you think there is need for free education?

| | |
|--------------------------------------|--|
| Community women | Yes, there is need for free education because of the high poverty level, many students drop out from school because they can't afford the school fees. |
| Community youths | Yes, there is need for free education. |
| Family heads | Yes, there is need for free education, many students drop out from school because they can't afford the school fees. |
| Traditional/community leaders | Definitely, there is need for free education. |

Local government employees Yes, there is need for free education because of the high poverty level, many students drop out from school because they can't afford the school fees.

How would describe the gap between the rich and the poor in the society? Is there a huge difference or appropriate?

Community women There is a huge gap between the rich and the poor, the rich are getting richer while the poor suffers more.

Community youths There is a huge gap between the rich and the poor, the rich are getting wealthier while the poor suffers more.

Family heads There is a huge gap between the rich and the poor.

Traditional/community leaders There is a huge gap between the rich and the poor, the rich are getting richer while the poor suffers more.

Local government employees There is a huge difference between the rich and the poor.

RQ4. According to the local people's perceptions, what are needed to minimise corruptive practices?

What do you think should be done to tackle corruption and establish transparent governance in this community?

Community women Electing good leaders in governance will help reduce corruption. Also, expose the bad/corrupt leaders and execute them according to the law to face justice.

Community youths To tackle corruption, everyone should be truthful to each other. Fish out the bad leaders and punish them and put the good ones into government. The citizens must have right to access government information, and monitor whether the people interest is being served by the bureaucrats. The youths should be organised and strong.

Family heads To tackle corruption, dissolve and sack the corrupt leaders from work. Punish the offenders according to the rule of law. The citizens must have right to access government information, and monitor whether the people interest is being served by the bureaucrats.

Traditional/community leaders To reduce corruption, there should be proper channel and established institutions to tackle corruption, these institutions should be impartial to handle corrupt cases.

Having good leaders in governance will also reduce corruption and increase government accountability and transparency. Everyone should be truthful and respect to each other and any suspected corrupt practice should be reported to authority immediately.

Local government employees To reduce corruption, the government should be truthful from the head to the tail and stop taking bribes.

What do you think should be done to enable the people to vote right and elect good leaders?

| | |
|---|--|
| <i>Community women</i> | Increasing credible free and fair electoral process to enable the people vote their choice of good leaders. |
| <i>Community youths</i> | Increasing credible free and fair electoral process to enable the people vote their choice of good leaders. The election procedure should be open and transparent for everyone to see the procedures. |
| <i>Family heads</i> | Increasing credible free and fair electoral process will enable more people vote their choice of good leaders. The election procedure should be open and transparent for everyone to see the procedures. |
| <i>Traditional/community leaders</i> | Increasing credible free and fair electoral process will enable more people vote their choice of good leaders. |
| <i>Local government employees</i> | Credible free and fair electoral process to enable more people vote their choice of better leaders. |

What do think should be done to promote equal rights and justice for everyone?

| | |
|---|---|
| <i>Community women</i> | Everyone should respect and recognise the right of everyone. The judicial system should practice equal rights and justice for everyone. There should be freedom of thoughts and expression. |
| <i>Community youths</i> | There should be equal rights and justice in the judicial system. There should be freedom of thoughts and expression. |
| <i>Family heads</i> | Everyone should respect and recognise the right of everyone. There should be freedom of thoughts and expression. |
| <i>Traditional/community leaders</i> | The judicial system should practice equal rights and justice for everyone. |
| <i>Local government employees</i> | There should be freedom of thoughts and expression. |

What do you think should be done to increase communication and report any suspected corrupt practice?

| | |
|---|---|
| <i>Community women</i> | There should be proper channel of communication to report any suspected corrupt practice. The established institutions tackling corruption should be impartial to handle corrupt cases. |
| <i>Community youths</i> | Report any suspected corrupt person to anti-corrupt agencies fighting corruption to face the law. The established institutions tackling corruption should be impartial in handling corrupt cases. |
| <i>Family heads</i> | There should be proper channel of communication to report any suspected corrupt practice. |
| <i>Traditional/community leaders</i> | The established institutions tackling corruption should be impartial in handling corrupt cases. |
| <i>Local government employees</i> | Report any suspected corrupt practice to security agencies and institutions fighting corruption. |

What do you contemplate should be done to curb mismanagement and embezzlement of public funds?

Community women

Bureaucrats' sources of wealth must be questioned. The public sector and civil society institutions fighting corruption should be strengthened. There should be proper supervision of projects and monitoring of funds.

Community youths

Anyone caught in mismanagement and embezzlement of public funds should be punished according to the rule of law and sent to prison, it will serve as an example for others to learn and desist from corrupt acts. Sources of bureaucrat's wealth should be questioned. There should be accurate supervision and monitoring of funds meant for community projects.

Family heads

Anyone caught in mismanagement and embezzlement of public funds should be punished according to the rule of law and sent to prison. Eliminate the over age workers and include the youths in government.

Traditional/community leaders

To minimise embezzlement of funds, sources of wealth must be questioned. The public sector and civil society institutions fighting corruption should be strengthened. There should be supervision of projects and monitoring of funds.

Local government employees

Anyone caught in mismanagement and embezzlement of public funds should be punished according to the rule of law. Workers salary should be increased to minimise temptation of stealing public funds.

What should be done to increase the people's trust and participation in governance?

Community women

The government should be honest and fulfil their development promises. The people should be included to participate and take part in governance and decision making.

Community youths

Involvement of the youths in governance and decision making.

Family heads

To increase the people's trust in governance, involve the youths in governance and decision making.

Traditional/community leaders

The government should be honest and fulfil their development promises. The people should be included to participate and take part in governance and decision making.

Local government employees

To increase the people's trust in government, the government should be honest and fulfil their development promises. The people should be included to participate and take part in governance and decision making.

RQ5. To which extent do People believe that transparent governance is a precondition to improve the socio-economic conditions in Nando and Aguleri community?

With government transparency and accountability, what do you think will be its positive impacts in the community?

| | |
|---|---|
| <i>Community women</i> | With government transparency, citizens participation and trust in the government will be back. It will enable more people to participate in election and support good/honest leaders that will lead the people effectively. |
| <i>Community youths</i> | Government transparency and accountability will increase people's participation and trust in the government. It will enable the people to elect good and transparent leaders. |
| <i>Family heads</i> | With government transparency and accountability, citizens participation and trust in the government will be back. It will enable the people to elect good and transparent leaders. |
| <i>Traditional/community leaders</i> | It will enable the people to elect good and transparent leaders which will be transparent and lead the people effectively. |
| <i>Local government employees</i> | With government transparency, corruption will decrease. Good standard of living and will increase for the people including infrastructural development in the community. There will Scholarship opportunities for students. |

If good leaders are elected into the government, will there be changes? If yes, what will be the improvements?

| | |
|---|---|
| <i>Community women</i> | There will be availability of basic amenities in the community which includes; stable electrical supply, job creation for the youths, modern schools with education facilities, free education, good roads, quality health care facilities etc. |
| <i>Community youths</i> | There will be positive changes and improvements in the community which includes; stable electrical supply, job creation for the youths, modern schools with education facilities, free education, good roads, quality health care facilities etc. |
| <i>Family heads</i> | If good leaders are elected into the government, there will be positive changes and improvements in the community which includes; stable electrical supply, job opportunities, modern schools, scholarship opportunities for students, good roads, good water supply etc. |
| <i>Traditional/community leaders</i> | If good leaders are elected into the government, there will be positive changes and availability of basic amenities for the people. |
| <i>Local government employees'</i> | Good governance will bring improvements in the community which includes; stable electrical supply, employment opportunities, modern schools with education facilities, free education, good roads, quality health care facilities etc. |

Will you participate in elections and pay taxes if the government is doing the right thing?

| | |
|--------------------------------|---|
| <i>Community women</i> | Yes, there will be increase in payment of tax and levies and more people will participate in elections. |
| <i>Community youths</i> | Yes. |

| | |
|---|--|
| <i>Family heads</i> | Yes. Will participate in elections and pay taxes if the government is doing the right thing. |
| <i>Traditional/community leaders</i> | Yes, if the government is doing the right thing there will be increase in payment of tax and levies and more people will participate in elections. |
| <i>Local government employees</i> | Yes, there will be increase in payment of tax and levies and more people will participate in elections. |

Do you think there will be adequate security of lives and property in this community if the government is transparent?

| | |
|---|--|
| <i>Community women</i> | Definitely, if the government is transparent, there will be adequate security of lives and property. |
| <i>Community youths</i> | There will be adequate security of lives and property. |
| <i>Family heads</i> | There will be adequate security of lives and property. |
| <i>Traditional/community leaders</i> | Definitely, with transparent governance there will be adequate security of lives and property. |
| <i>Local government employees</i> | Definitely, there will be adequate security of lives and property. |

If the people (youths) are provided with basic amenities (stable electrical power supply, pipe borne water, free education etc.), how will it contribute to the development of this community?

| | |
|---|--|
| <i>Community women</i> | If the people are provided with basic amenities, it will promote good behaviour and moral standard. It will create youth empowerment and skill acquisitions. |
| <i>Community youths</i> | If the people are provided with basic amenities, It will reduce crime rate, reduce corruption, encourage youth empowerment, create job opportunities for others, increase peace, security and prosperity of the community. |
| <i>Family heads</i> | If the people are provided with basic amenities, it will reduce crime rate, reduce corruption and increase payment of tax and levies. |
| <i>Traditional/community leaders</i> | If the people are provided with basic amenities, there will be low crimes rates, people will help/assist each other. Knowledge and competence will increase, and poverty rate will decrease. |
| <i>Local government employees</i> | If the people are provided with basic amenities, there will be low crimes rates, poverty rate will decrease. It will promote good behaviour and moral standard. It will create youth empowerment and skill acquisitions. |

How will government transparency create better living environmental standards in the community?

| | |
|--------------------------------|--|
| <i>Community women</i> | It will create conducive environment for commerce and industry. |
| <i>Community youths</i> | Government transparency will create open flow of information which will enable the people to see what the bureaucrats are doing. It will also enable the people monitor how community development projects are executed. |

Family heads

With government transparency, there will be open flow of information, which will enable the people to monitor government activities. It will prevent public funds embezzlement. Community development projects will be executed effectively.

Traditional/community leaders

Government transparency will create conducive environment for commerce and industry.

Local government employees

It will create conducive environment for commerce and industry.

5. Coding Results

5.1 Close codes for RQ1

| Close codes | Properties | Participant words |
|-----------------------------|--|---|
| Perceived corrupt practices | The perceived corrupt practices in Nando and Aguleri community of Anambra State. | <p>Traditional/community leaders “The money meant for community development projects is not efficiently used, the contractors use small part of the project money to do work that is not up to standard, and then embezzle others”.</p> <p>Family heads “The money meant for community development projects is not efficiently used, the contractors embezzle some part of the project money”.</p> <p>Community youths “The community leaders are not transparent in decision making. They treat some people special and disregard some”.</p> <p>Family heads “the community leaders are not transparent in decision making”.</p> <p>Community women “Some political candidates offer bribes to gain people’s votes, and it is bad”.</p> <p>Local government employees “Local government workers salary is paid regularly but it does not cover our needs”.</p> <p>Traditional/community leaders “It is in existence; some people offer bribes and gifts to gain job contracts, positions and favours from government, and it bad</p> |

| | | |
|--|--|---|
| | | <p>because it leads to unqualified personnel handling job positions or project”.</p> <p>Community youths “It is in existence; some people offer bribes to gain contracts and favours from leaders”.</p> <p>Local government employees “Anambra East local government has not employed anyone for the past 3 years”.</p> |
|--|--|---|

5.2 Close codes for RQ2

| Close codes | Properties | Participant words |
|-------------------------------|---|--|
| Where corrupt practices occur | Where and what level the local people think that corrupt practices occur. | <p>Family heads “The local government workers are not efficient in their jobs, some don’t even go to work”</p> <p>Community leaders “No, the local government workers are not efficient in their jobs, they only care about their salary”.</p> <p>Community women “Corruption exist in this community and occurs at all levels, including the youths, the women, family heads, local government workers, and mostly among the leaders”.</p> <p>Community youths “Corruption exists in the community, it is very bad, and it happens everywhere, including the youths, the women, the local government workers, the family heads. It occurs mostly among the community leaders”.</p> <p>Local government employees “The judicial system is very corrupt with lack of equal rights and justice for everyone”.</p> <p>Local government employees “The community leaders are not transparent in decision making, they embezzle community project funds”.</p> |

5.3 Close codes for RQ3

| Close codes | Properties | Participant words |
|-----------------------------------|---|---|
| Consequences of corrupt practices | The perceived consequences of corrupt practices in Nando and Aguleri community. | <p>Community Youths “There are no good government schools in this community, we don’t have many good teachers and the school fees are also high”.</p> <p>Family heads “There are lack of good government schools in this community, we have good teachers, but the school fees are very high”.</p> <p>Traditional/community leaders “There are no good roads in this community, and little clean water supplies”.</p> <p>Community youths “The roads in this community are not up to good standard, coupled with little clean water supplies”.</p> <p>Community women “The government is not trusted because they don’t care about the wellbeing of the people”.</p> <p>Traditional/community leaders “Only average trust for the government because they embezzle funds meant for community development projects”.</p> <p>Traditional/community leaders “There are health centres in this community, but they lack medical equipment”.</p> <p>Community women “There are health centres in this community, but they lack medical equipment and good facilities”.</p> <p>Local government employees “Anambra East local government has not employed anyone for the past 3 years”.</p> <p>Local government employees “The local government workers are not efficient in their jobs, they lack motivation to work because of low salary”.</p> <p>Family heads “There are no jobs for the people, unemployment is everywhere”.</p> |

| | |
|--|--|
| | <p>Local government employees “The electrical power supply is not constant. The distribution company collects energy levies but won’t give steady electricity”.</p> <p>Community youths “There are no electrical power supply in this community”.</p> <p>Family heads “The judicial system is very corrupt with no equal rights and justice for everyone”.</p> <p>Community youths “Everyone is not treated equal in this community”.</p> <p>Traditional/community leaders “Only few people can provide food and shelter for themselves, the majority are suffering and living in poverty”.</p> <p>Community women “Only few people can provide food and shelter for themselves and their family, life is hard in this community, many people are suffering and living in poverty”.</p> <p>Local government employees “Yes, there is need for free education because of the high poverty level, many students drop out from school because they can’t afford school fees”.</p> <p>Community women “The community is not fully secured”.</p> <p>Community youths “No adequate security in this community”.</p> <p>Family heads “There is a huge gap between the rich and the poor, the rich are getting richer while the poor suffers more”.</p> <p>Local government employees “There is a huge gap between the rich and the poor, the rich are wealthier while the poor suffers more”.</p> |
|--|--|

5.4 Close codes for RQ4

| Close codes | Properties | Participant words |
|----------------------|---|---|
| Corruption reduction | The local people's perceptions on what are needed to minimise corruptive practices. | <p>Traditional/community leaders "To reduce corruption, there should be proper channel and established institutions to tackle corruption, these institutions should be impartial to handle corrupt cases".</p> <p>Community youths "Report any suspected corrupt person to anti-corrupt agencies fighting corruption to face the law. The established institutions fighting corruption should be strengthened and impartial in handling corrupt cases".</p> <p>Local government employees "Report any suspected corrupt practice to security agencies and institutions fighting corruption".</p> <p>Community women "The public sector and civil society institutions fighting corruption should be strengthened.</p> <p>Community women "Electing good leaders in governance will help reduce corruption. Also, expose the bad/corrupt leaders and execute them according to the law to face justice".</p> <p>Traditional/community leaders "Having good leaders in governance will also reduce corruption and increase government accountability and transparency".</p> <p>Community youths "To tackle corruption, everyone should be truthful to each other. Fish out the bad leaders and punish them and put the good ones into governance".</p> <p>Family heads "Increasing free and fair electoral process will enable more people vote their choice of good leaders. The election procedure should be open and transparent for everyone to see the procedures".</p> <p>Community youths "Sack or suspend the corrupt leaders from work".</p> |

| | | |
|--|--|---|
| | | <p>Local government employees “To reduce corruption, the government should be truthful from the head to the tail and stop taking bribes”.</p> <p>Community women “The government should be honest and fulfil their development promises. The people should be included to participate and take part in governance and decision making”.</p> <p>Family heads “To increase the people’s trust in governance, involve the youths in governance and decision making. Eliminate over age workers and include the youths in government”.</p> <p>Community youths “Anyone caught in mismanagement and embezzlement of public funds should be punished according to the rule of law and sent to prison, it will serve as an example for others to earn and desist from corrupt acts”.</p> <p>Local government employees “Anyone caught in mismanagement and embezzlement of public funds should be punished according to the law. Workers salary should be increased to minimise temptation of stealing public funds”.</p> <p>Traditional/community leaders “To minimise embezzlement of funds, sources of wealth must be questioned. There should be supervision of projects and monitoring of funds”.</p> <p>Community youths “Sources of bureaucrats’ wealth should be questioned. There should be accurate supervision and monitoring of projects and monitoring of funds meant for community projects”.</p> <p>Family heads “Everyone should respect and recognise the right of everyone. The judicial system should practice equal rights and justice for everyone. There should be freedom of thoughts and expression”.</p> <p>Community youths “The citizens must have right to access government information, and monitor whether the people’s interest is being served by the bureaucrats”.</p> |
|--|--|---|

5.5 Close codes for RQ5

| Close codes | Properties | Participant words |
|------------------------|---|---|
| Transparent governance | Extent the people believe transparent governance as a precondition to improve the socio-economic conditions in the community. | <p>Community women “With government transparency, citizens participation and trust in the government will be back. It will enable more people to participate in elections and support good/honest leaders that will lead the people effectively”.</p> <p>Community youths “Government transparency and accountability will increase people’s participation and trust in the government. It will enable the people elect good and transparent leaders”.</p> <p>Local government employees “With government transparency, corruption will decrease. Good standard of living will increase for the people including infrastructural development in the community”.</p> <p>Family heads “If good leaders are elected into the government, there will positive changes and improvements in the community which includes; stable electrical supply, job opportunities, modern schools, scholarship opportunities for students, good roads, good water supply etc.”</p> <p>Local government employees “Good governance will bring improvements in the community which includes; stable electrical supply, employment opportunities, modern schools with education facilities, free education, good roads, quality health care facilities etc.”</p> <p>Community women “There will be availability of basic amenities in the community which includes; stable electrical supply, job creation for the youths, modern schools with education facilities, free education, good roads, quality health care facilities etc.”</p> <p>Traditional/community leaders “If the people are provided with basic amenities, there will be low crimes rate, people will help/assist each other. Knowledge and competence will increase, and poverty rate will decrease”.</p> |

| | | |
|--|--|--|
| | | <p>Community youths “If the people are provided with basic amenities, it will reduce crime rate, reduce corruption, encourage youth empowerment, create job opportunities for others, increase peace, security and prosperity of the community”.</p> <p>Community women “If the people are provided with basic amenities, it will promote good behaviour and moral standard. It will create youth empowerment and skill acquisitions.</p> <p>Traditional/community leaders “Yes, if the government is doing the right thing there will be increase in payment of tax and levies, and more people will participate in elections.</p> <p>Family heads “Yes, will participate in elections and pay taxes if the government is doing the right thing.</p> <p>Family heads “With government transparency, there will be open flow of information which will enable the people to monitor government activities. It will prevent public funds embezzlement and community development projects will be executed effectively”.</p> <p>Community youths “Government transparency will create open flow of information which will enable the people to see what the bureaucrats are doing. It will also enable the people monitor how community development projects are executed”.</p> <p>Traditional/community leaders “Definitely, with transparent government there will be adequate security of lives and property”.</p> <p>Community women “If the government is transparent, there will be suitable security of lives and property.</p> <p>Local government employees “It will create conducive environment for commerce and industry”.</p> <p>Traditional community leaders “Government transparency will create conducive environment for commerce and industry”.</p> |
|--|--|--|

5.6 Axial codes based on close codes

| Close codes | Axial codes |
|---|--------------------------------------|
| <p>Traditional/community leaders “The money meant for community development projects is not efficiently used, the contractors use small part of the project money to do work that is not up to standard, and then embezzle others”.</p> <p>Local government employees “The community leaders are not transparent in decision making, they embezzle community project funds”.</p> <p>Community youths “The community leaders are not transparent in decision making. They treat some people special and disregard some”.</p> <p>Community women “Some political candidates offer bribes to gain people’s votes, and it is bad”.</p> <p>Traditional/community leaders “It is in existence; some people offer bribes and gifts to gain job contracts, positions and favours from government, and it bad because it leads to unqualified personnel handling job positions or project”.</p> <p>Local government employees “Local government workers salary is paid regularly but it does not cover our needs”.</p> <p>Family heads “The local government workers are not efficient in their jobs, some don’t even go to work”</p> <p>Community women “Corruption exist in this community and occurs at all levels, including the youths, the women, family heads, local government workers, and mostly among the leaders”.</p> | <p>Corruption perception</p> |
| <p>Community Youths “There are no good government schools in this community, we don’t have many good teachers and the school fees are also high”.</p> <p>Community youths “The roads in this community are not up to good standard, coupled with little clean water supplies”.</p> <p>Community women “The government is not trusted because they don’t care about the wellbeing of the people”.</p> | <p>Community development dilemma</p> |

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| <p>Community women “There are health centres in this community, but they lack medical equipment and good facilities”.</p> <p>Local government employees “Anambra East local government has not employed anyone for the past 3 years”.</p> <p>Family heads “There are no jobs for the people, unemployment is everywhere”.</p> <p>Local government employees “The local government workers are not efficient in their jobs, they lack motivation to work because of low salary”.</p> <p>Local government employees “The electrical power supply is not constant. The distribution company collects energy levies but won’t give steady electricity”.</p> <p>Family heads “The judicial system is very corrupt with no equal rights and justice for everyone”.</p> <p>Community youths “Everyone is not treated equal in this community”.</p> <p>Traditional/community leaders “Only few people can provide food and shelter for themselves, the majority are suffering and living in poverty”.</p> <p>Local government employees “Yes, there is need for free education because of the high poverty level, many students drop out from school because they can’t afford school fees”.</p> <p>Community youths “No adequate security in this community”.</p> <p>Family heads “There is a huge gap between the rich and the poor, the rich are getting richer while the poor suffers more”.</p> | |
| <p>Traditional/community leaders “To reduce corruption, there should be proper channel and established institutions to tackle corruption, these institutions should be impartial to handle corrupt cases”.</p> <p>Community youths “Report any suspected corrupt person to anti-corrupt agencies fighting corruption to face the law. The established institutions fighting corruption should be strengthened and impartial in handling corrupt cases”.</p> | <p>Corrective measures/ moderating variables</p> |

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| <p>Community women “Electing good leaders in governance will help reduce corruption. Also, expose the bad/corrupt leaders and convict them according to the law to face justice”.</p> <p>Traditional/community leaders “Having good leaders in governance will also reduce corruption and increase government accountability and transparency”.</p> <p>Community youths “To tackle corruption, everyone should be truthful to each other. Fish out the bad leaders and punish them and put the good ones into governance”.</p> <p>Local government employees “To reduce corruption, the government should be truthful from the head to the tail and stop taking bribes”.</p> <p>Community women “The government should be honest and fulfil their development promises. The people should be included to participate and take part in governance and decision making”.</p> <p>Family heads “To increase the people’s trust in governance, involve the youths in governance and decision making. Eliminate over age workers and include the youths in government”.</p> <p>Local government employees “Anyone caught in mismanagement and embezzlement of public funds should be punished according to the law. Workers salary should be increased to minimise temptation of stealing public funds”.</p> <p>Traditional/community leaders “To minimise embezzlement of funds, sources of wealth must be questioned. There should be supervision of projects and monitoring of funds”.</p> <p>Family heads “Everyone should respect and recognise the right of everyone. The judicial system should practice equal rights and justice for everyone. There should be freedom of thoughts and expression”.</p> <p>Community youths “The citizens must have right to access government information, and monitor whether the people’s interest is being served by the bureaucrats”.</p> | |
| <p>Community women “With government transparency, citizens participation and trust in the government will be back. It will enable more people to participate in elections and support good/honest leaders that will lead the people effectively”.</p> | <p>Transparent/good governance impact</p> |

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| <p>Local government employees “With government transparency, corruption will decrease. Good standard of living will increase for the people including infrastructural development in the community”.</p> <p>Local government employees “Good governance will bring improvements in the community which includes; stable electrical supply, employment opportunities, modern schools with education facilities, free education, good roads, quality health care facilities etc.”</p> <p>Traditional/community leaders “If the people are provided with basic amenities, there will be low crimes rate, people will help/assist each other. Knowledge and competence will increase, and poverty rate will decrease”.</p> <p>Community youths “If the people are provided with basic amenities, it will reduce crime rate, reduce corruption, encourage youth empowerment, create job opportunities for others, increase peace, security and prosperity of the community”.</p> <p>Traditional/community leaders “Yes, if the government is doing the right thing there will be increase in payment of tax and levies, and more people will participate in elections.</p> <p>Family heads “With government transparency, there will be open flow of information which will enable the people to monitor government activities. It will prevent public funds embezzlement and community development projects will be executed effectively”.</p> <p>Community women “If the government is transparent, there will be sufficient security of lives and property.</p> <p>Traditional community leaders “Government transparency will create conducive environment for commerce and industry”.</p> | |
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5.7 Selective code based on axial codes

| Axial codes | Selective code |
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| <p>Traditional/community leaders “The money meant for community development projects is not efficiently used, the contractors use small part of the project money to do work that is not up to standard, and then embezzle others”.</p> | <p>Citizens dissatisfaction</p> |

Traditional/community leaders “It is in existence; some people offer bribes and gifts to gain job contracts, positions and favours from government, and it bad because it leads to unqualified personnel handling job positions or project”.

Community youths “The community leaders are not transparent in decision making. They treat some people special and disregard some”.

Community women “Corruption exist in this community and occurs at all levels, including the youths, the women, family heads, local government workers, and mostly among the leaders”.

Community Youths “There are no good government schools in this community, we don’t have many good teachers and the school fees are also high”.

Community youths “The roads in this community are not up to good standard, coupled with little clean water supplies”.

Community women “The government is not trusted because they don’t care about the wellbeing of the people”.

Local government employees “The local government workers are not efficient in their jobs, they lack motivation to work because of low salary”.

Community women “There are health centres in this community, but they lack medical equipment and good facilities”.

Family heads “There are no jobs for the people, unemployment is everywhere”.

Traditional/community leaders “Only few people can provide food and shelter for themselves, the majority are suffering and living in poverty”.

Traditional/community leaders “To reduce corruption, there should be proper channel and established institutions to tackle corruption, these institutions should be impartial to handle corrupt cases”.

Community women “Electing good leaders in governance will help reduce corruption. Also, expose the bad/corrupt leaders and convict them according to the law to face justice”.

Local government employees “Anyone caught in mismanagement and embezzlement of public funds should be punished according to the law. Workers salary should be increased to minimise temptation of stealing public funds”.

Community youths “The citizens must have right to access government information, and monitor whether the people’s interest is being served by the bureaucrats”.

Local government employees “Good governance will bring improvements in the community which includes; stable electrical supply, employment opportunities, modern schools with education facilities, free education, good roads, quality health care facilities etc.”

Community youths “If the people are provided with basic amenities, it will reduce crime rate, reduce corruption, encourage youth empowerment, create job opportunities for others, increase peace, security and prosperity of the community”.