INDONESIAN JOURNAL OF ECONOMICS, SOCIAL, AND HUMANITIES
ijesh.unri.ac.id

ISSN 2656-355X

Effects of Corruption On Socio-Economic Development in Kenya

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Article Info

Received : 2024-03-20
Accepted : 2026-01-28
Published : 2026-02-11

Keywords: effects; corruption; socio-economic development; Kenya

Abstract

Corruption is real in the societies, Kenya not excluded. Corruption has serious ramifications on socio-economic development in the society on the issue of depriving the common citizens towards realizing necessary development initiatives and equity in resource distribution. The purpose of the study was to determine the effects of corruption on socio-economic development in Kenya. Specific objectives were to establish: effects of corruption on infrastructural development and on access to tenders with the governments of Kenya. The study adopted meta-analyses of empirical literature supported by Ferrer (1998) The study established that corruption is entrenched in Kenya. That corruption has led to exaggeration of the costs of infrastructural projects in Kenya and or led to some being stalled. That getting tenders with the government is not easy but depends on connections. The findings have implications on strengthening the government institutions like anti-corruption commission, the office public prosecutor, the Directorate of Criminal Investigation the court system to be strengthened proper investigations be done prosecuting and trial of those found culpable.

Introduction

The study is presented in the following order: introduction, materials and methods, results and discussions, conclusions, implications of the study findings and novelty of the study.

The purpose of the study was to establish the effects of corruption on socio-economic development in Kenya, to establish effects of corruption on infrastructural development and to establish the effects of corruption on businesses. Reports on the Local dailies on the findings from the Office of the controller of Budget of Kenya on 27th February revealed that over 35 Billion Kenya Shillings have been looted through corrupt deals in Kenya in both National and County Governments of Kenya through exaggerated transactions between 2013 to 2022, and that in the same period Kenya lost money to the tune of 5.7 Billion to the ghost workers. This tells how deeply entrenched the monster of corruption is in the Kenyan society. The reason as to why dependent variables addressed in the objectives of the study that is infrastructure and winning and or award of government tenders was informed by the huge reported scams in the same by the Government's controller of budget during the 2023/2024 Financial Year in Kenya and the negative effects of poor transport and multipurpose projects to which budgets have been previous apportioned and which have failed to take effect largely due to the vice of run-away corruption amongst some connected persons in the national Government. The procurement law and or tendering transactions with the national Government usually attracts huge sums of money in terms of billions of Kenya shillings and hence is likely to lead to more income inequalities amongst the citizen and hence unequitable income distribution amongst the populace hence unfairness in the management of public affairs. The award of tenders apart from the fact that they tend to be over quoted so as to fleece public finances, they tend to be awarded to the know who and not the required fair procedures on a genuine approach to the highest bidder-but inclined towards who if awarded tender will give the biggest kick-buck to those departments that given them opportunities to trade with the government in the belief of making ‘quick-money’.

Literature Review

Corruption has indeed paralyzed the socio-economic functioning of the Kenyan society to a degree so alarming that is near-bringing society into its knees in diverse sectors of the economy.

A study by Igbaekemen et.al (2014) on the effects of corruption on socio-economic development of Nigeria sprung up because socio-economic development is pertinent to all hence it would be regarded as an apex of social co-existence. It would go along assisting in identification of how deep the vice of corruption has negatively impacted on the socio-economic superstructure of the Nigerian society.

Corruption is nearly becoming a culture in Sub-Sahara Africa and on that note, Popora and Podolyakina (2014) on pervasive impact That of corruption on social system an economic growth established that statistical dependencies between corruption level and factors of social systems were insurmountable. That social mode adopted and the detected dependencies vary according to the models so used. That different social models presents different dependencies between corruption and other factors of social system. That effects of corruption on social system has been researched about by many scholars. The novelty of this study is that the model adopted and the obtained results have supported its approval.

Corruption is indeed deeply rooted in Nigeria and hence a concern of scholars and hence a study by Igbaekemen et.al (2014) on the effect of corruption on socio-economic development of Nigeria is well thought of due to socio-economic ills that bedevil Nigeria and help address the deeply socially entrenched vice of corruption in the Nigerian Social Fabric and its implications on socio-economic development and welfare of the society in general. That the main interest of the study is to establish the damage caused by corruption on the image of Nigeria and the institutionalized anti- graft agencies were put under scrutiny. The study established that corruption is real in Nigeria and therefore requires concerted efforts of all stakeholders including the governments both at federal states and the national government in collaboration with the ant graft agencies and sensitization of the public of the need for a corruption free society that would guarantee a fair, just and equitable society in socio-economic development ventures.

The biting vice of corruption derails the sustainable achievement of socio-economic development plans in a society and hence the work of Unen (2012) on effects of corruption on socio-economic development of Nigeria is categorical that there were many unresolved problems in Nigeria but the issue of corruption that is on the rise in the country is disastrous towards the socio-economic development pathways for the society. The study was underpinned with systems Theory. Survey study design was adopted. That the deeply rooted vice of corruption in the Nigerian social superstructure has left the country’s legs wobbling when it comes to socio-economic development agenda and that decline in public morality due to corruption levels in Nigeria has led to high poverty levels, inequitable distribution of income, high unemployment levels, poor infrastructure, high mortality levels amongst the populace characterized the failed system of governance. All these culminates into socio-economic ills that bedevil the society.

Corruption in public and private sectors thrive a conducive environment where there are loopholes in practicing the vice and where those who engage in it do so willingly as they derive selfish gains from it in connection to it, Coetzes (2014) on impact of corruption on development attribute the high level of corruption in certain societies due to failed institutions like the ant graft bodies and the court systems and the directorate of the Public prosecutions. That corruption has indeed led to poor socio-economic developments and inequitable society with huge gaps in infrastructural development, corrupt public procurement systems for state projects and tendering systems that are a preserve of the selected few (the corruptly connected characters) consequently the corrupt and tenderpreneurs are rich while most of the people in the society are poor. In such a scenario, socio-economic development suffers heavily. That such situation requires alleviation through engagement of all stakeholders in the society to fight the vice of graft.

Methods

The study explored meta-analyses empirical literature as supported the work of Ferrer (1998) on this scheme. The studies analyzed explored different methodologies with each utilizing the technique (s) most relevant to the study. Survey techniques, case study, mixed methods, exploratory studies, critical literature review and appreciation. Different models and theories were explored towards the various empirical studies. Panel data studies from across diverse countries and over a span of many years have also been critically meta analyzed. The varied methodologies therein analyzed toward this paper including case studies, experimental, longitudinal, quasi-experimental designs and other relevant models including econometric are critically appreciated in a literary stint.

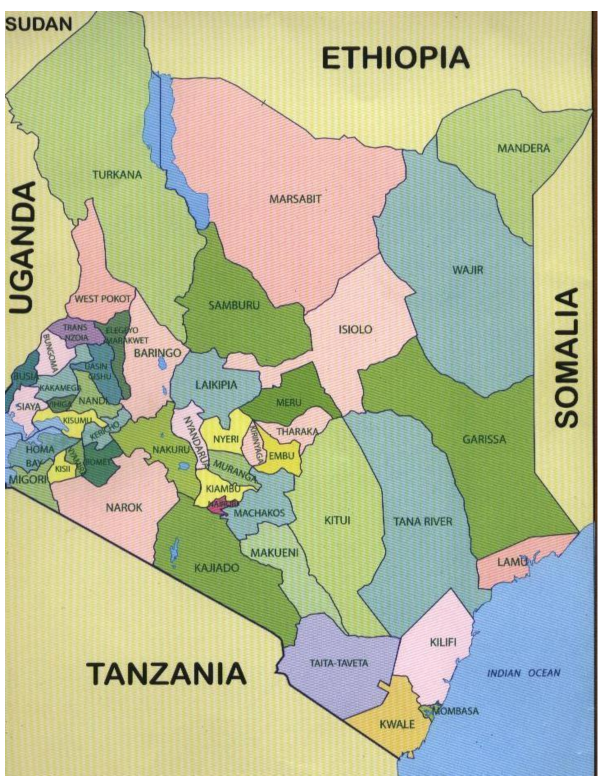

figure 1: map of Kenya showing the various administrative regions where there are varied government projects

Discussion

On The Question on Corruption and its impact on Infrastructural Development in Kenya

Corruption phenomena is indeed a big issue in diverse communities and therefore a study by Akonyunlun and Ramella (2020) on corruption and corruption and economic development looks at effect of openness, trade and economic development for a cross-section of 143 countries by analyzing effects of openness and corruption, income, productivity, innovation and income inequality, institutional and cultural geographical factors, economy and country size and age of democracy. Estimates show that corruption negatively affect income per capita, productivity while it does not significantly impact on income inequality. Both the control of corruption and openness nine trade affect output of the workers through total factors productivity. Both corrupt and openness in trade are statistically determined of the 90% income gap. Landlockedness affect growth index directly even after controlling of trade and corruption. Implications of the study findings estimates that Botswana improved its corruption, which if it were at the level of Finland income per capita level would increase by 2.7 times.

The degree of corruption in a society can threaten investors both local and foreign for engaging in an enterprise and the work of Elijah (2007) on effect of corruption and economic reform on economic growth and development: Lessons from Nigeria the finding showed that reduction in corruption would have positive effect on economic growth. That discouragement of Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) and completely controlling corruption would improve socio-economic development.

Corruption is a global phenomenon causing development challenges to societies in that regard a study by Ola et.al (2014) on effects of corruption on socio-economic development: evidences from South East Asia analyzes levels of corruption amongst the countries of S.E. Asia and established that there were varying levels of corruption amongst the countries. That corruption affects the realization of nations' social and economic agenda negatively for example it reflects on poor infrastructure, inequitable distribution of wealth and income, marginalization in business opportunities for the less corrupt, heightened poverty levels, high unemployment levels in the society all of which could improve if the vice of corruption could be put under control.

Obbayi (2019) on process in the implementation of road construction projects: A Case of Mau-Narok –Kisisiri Road Project, Kenya adopted survey design and is cognizant as to the significance of Public Procurement in the Domestic Market systems in the less developed countries, depending on how the contract is equitably and openly handled and hence contribute towards economic development of these nations. The study focused on the factors influencing implementation of road construction projects using a sample of 114 people. The study established that the Kenya Highways Roads Authority Tendering and Procurement system was transparent and hence the value for money is attained.

Kendo and Getuno (2023) on factors affecting tendering process in state corporations: A Case of Kenya Literature Bureau adopted a survey study design targeting the 200 KLB employees at the time of the study. Sixty people were sampled for the study. The finding was that supplier selection, use of technology records management and procurement planning affecting tendering system at KLB.Implications for KLB to put in measures towards ensuring transparent, equitable and legally and policy framework and regulation adherence on the tendering practice.

Masudio (2021) on competition, tendering and performance of procurement in Government institutions adopted descriptive survey design on procurement functions in public a private sector. The study assesses whether strict adherence to the principles and regulations that guide procurement transactional processes that are basically transparent in Moyo District, Tanzania. Eighty respondents were sampled for the study. Agency Theory and Stakeholder theory underpinned the study. The findings showed that effect of tender advertisement on performance of procurement and access to several suppliers was significant at $\boldsymbol{\beta} = 0.68$, $p<0.05$. Implications of the findings to the stakeholders towards ensuring transparent, equitable and legally based procurement practice that guarantees value for the money involved therein and without compromising the expected standard threshold involved thereto.

Amenya et.al (2020) on effects of Procurement practices and government policies on performance of infrastructural projects in Public Universities in Kenya: A Case of Rongo University adopted a survey study design 60 employees of Rongo University were sampled drawn from different departments and were administered for a questionnaire for data collection. The study established that divided practices applied to the procurement process as in when items are procured. They agree that procurement entail selection of vendors, evaluation, inspection of goods and services, negotiated contracts, supply chain, procurement laws and policies. That failure to adhere to the procurement regulations and laws creates a misnomer in the transaction and negatively affect the project implementation and compromise standards and lowers the value for money within the framework of accomplishing the infrastructural programs.

Omuya (2017) on public procurement practices and performance of selected constituency development fund projects in Kenya. Adopted survey design in which 96 CDF projects that were ongoing in Nairobi City, Kiambu, Kisumu, Bomet, and Bungoma counties were assessed. The findings indicated that political influence on the CDF projects negatively affected the implementation process and compromised standard threshold.

Obo (2019) on impact of political patronage on implementation of public procurement Law: Slay the Dragon of Mega Corruption in Kenya adopted empirical literature and was categorical that over the years Kenya government effected the public procurement practices guided by legislative framework for example the Public Procurement Regulation 2001 and the Public Procurement Disposal Act 2015 and 3 bodies have been established to oversee smoothness in public procurement process namely Public Procurement Oversight Authority (PPOA) ,The Public Procurement Advisory Board (PPAB) and the Public Procurement Complaints Review Appeals (PPCRAs).The public procurement is quite significant especially in the developing nations where by revenue of the nation per every financial year, it covers up to about 60% the revenue collections. That given the magnitude of Public Finances so channeled to these transactions, vested interest and political patronage take center stage hence corruption set in so that the tenders are awarded not with strict adherence to the prescribed laws but based on political connectedness in which the tendered would give huge kickbacks to those who have given the tender to them. This makes public procurement process inequitable, unfair, compromising standards and leading to inequitable distribution of financial resources. So these are the critical issue that this study revolves around corruption and public procurement process and infrastructural development.

Corruption in the Republic of Kenya has been there and more deeply entrenched in the post-independent period with huge percentages worth of billions of US Dollars of GDP being lost to it in every financial year and attracting the study by Kemp (2014) on Kenya's Corruption Problem :Causes and Consequences observed that the culture of corruption is far -fetched in the Kenyan social system and that the institutions that are designed to regulate the relationships between the citizens and the state are being are being used for personal enrichment for the rich and corruptly connected persons including the opinion leaders like the politicians because they have the power of connection so that they benefit from the state project initiatives and community project initiatives at the expense of the common populace. This vice of corruption finds a residence in the week democratic institutions, weak anti-graft bodies like Ethics and Anti-Corruption Corruption, Manipulable Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions who usually suffer from state capture so that they many a time fail to investigate and prosecute high profiled corruption cases touching on Politicians and or appointees of the Government in place. The scenario is a gap in socio-economic development including state initiated Multipurpose Water Projects, Transport Infrastructural Projects, Land grabbing and all the ills that bedevil the Kenyan society leading to unfair and unjust society with huge income disparities and lack of business opportunities for the less connected. The situation is aggravated by lack of transparency, Lack of Public accessibility and total impunity in the *modus operandi* in the running of state and or social affairs.

Elbahnasawy et.al (2012) on the determinants of corruption: cross-country panel data analysis explores the determinants of corruption using Hausman Taylor’s Technique to estimate the random effect of corruption. Support for the rule of Law that better Law enforcement would reduce considerably the vice of corruption form the society and perceptions of the practice of accountability would decrease corruption indicating provision of equal opportunities to participate in the nation’s decision making process through public participation and theory of good governance characterized by democracy, transparency and accountability, media freedom to report issues towards enlightening the society.

Corruption is indeed a thorn in the flesh in an attempt to achieve elevated socio-economic status of a society as planned a study by Orwa (2020) on implications of corruption on Kenya’s Sustainable development and Economic Growth maintain that corruption really weighs down against sustainable development and economic growth of the society. The study established that the run-away corruption that has characterized the Kenyan society over the years has had implications on derailed growth on different sectors of the economy including education, health, transport and communication, energy, land and other sectors that have performed below expectations due to the deeply entrenched monster of corruption in Kenya.

Corruption is seen in various practices both in the public and private sectors of an economy for example heads of divisions usually practice nepotism in appointments with a lot of impunity and also squandering public resources thereby derailing development sometimes culminating into a broke state whereas the corrupt are at times richer than the nation from their looted resources the work of Okafor et.al (2014) on Kleptocracy, Nepotism: Impact of Corruption on the Sub-Saharan African Countries maintain that corruption is not only an impediment to economic development but too to the generally welfare of the citizens of the nations. That lack of transparency and accountability in the societies has provided a rich breeding ground of the vice of corruption amongst the Sub-Saharan African Countries.

Much as there are evidences of efforts towards fighting the vice of corruption in Africa, weak institutions, lack of political goodwill from the top political elites usually frustrates the achievement of the war against corruption consequently a study by Seen (2020) on a critical assessment of anti-corruption.

On the question of Effects of corruption on infrastructural development in Kenya

Strategy for economic development in Sub-Saharan African Countries is categorical that many Sub-Saharan African Countries have experienced a thwarted economic development and corrupt public administration as the United Nations Convention Against Corruption (UNCAC) focuses on complex mechanisms that SSA need to examine and put checks on. The findings that there are week anti-corruption strategies that still gives room for the vice of corruption to breed and continuous spread amongst the societies as there exist week institutions that sometimes lacks independence and suffers from state capture towards investigating high profile corruption cases from those powerful in the society, weak Directorate of Public Prosecutions, Weak Anti-Graft Bodies, and weak Justice Systems that are sometimes constitutionally independent but, however manipulated and sing to the tune of those in power leading going scot free of high profile corruption cases.

Fighting corruption from a human rights to development perspectives is path that is also followed as a model however, without willingness of the entire countries' leadership on a concerted efforts to uproot the vice, the efforts are bound to achieve very minimal and hence Moyo (2017) on an analysis of impact of corruption on the realization of the right to development established that corruption is an impediment towards fairness and just and equity in development ventures and the consequence of this perpetuated poverty, inequality, poor infrastructural development and many stalled state initiated and or community initiated projects. These consequently deny the citizens the right to development.

Developments indices are indeed pulled down by the vice of corruption in any society and hence the work of Kinyanjui (2021) on effects of corruption on social factors: Issues in Kenyan Economy maintain that corruption leads negative impact on human development index, reduced income per capita, it affects health factors, increased poverty levels amongst the vulnerable. Consequently, social welfare of the members of the society are negatively affected.

Effects of corruption on socio-economic development has hit many countries below the belt and hence a study by Mohammed et.al (2016) on corruption and economic development in the Middle East and North Africa observe that corruption is believed to be widespread and that it adversely affects countries at varying proportions. That corrupt practices such as bribes have become a commonplace and that countries that should be corruption free are acutely affected by it. The radical school of development that categorize countries into developed, less developed and middle income countries tend perceived less developed countries as more corrupt. However, it remains unclear as to whether increases in income and development has correlations with the level of development of a nation state.

That quality of democratic political leadership guided by central cannons of good governance; transparency, democracy and accountability to the citizens could have some positive impacts on checking corruption towards attainment of meaning human development index, gross domestic product and general socio-economic elevation of the society, however in the face of no good will of political class and concerted efforts by all the citizens nothing much could be achieved in the ward against the vice that would continue unabated. A study by Kostas et.al (2019) on two focus of the same corruption? A cooperation between global approach to corruption and socioeconomic development in their analytical approach maintain that relationship between corruption levels, human development, government effectiveness and quality of political system. Finding indicate that these aspects are partially correlated and that feedback relationships are important in assessing socioeconomic development in a comparative perspective. Effect development strategies require measures aimed at boosting income, remedying corruption and stimulating human development and growth effectiveness. That these strategies are sustainable only when associated with institutional transformation, enhancing governance quality, with unstable democracy and ineffective governance and socio-economic development cannot be effectively achieved and maintained in the long run with corruption. Wealth is necessary but not a sufficient condition for development.

Corruption usually has serious negative implications on the general socio-economic welfare of the society and derailing meaningful projects from being accomplished as planned. Kamaldeen et.al (2013) on corruption and economic development: evidence from Nigeria are categorical about the high levels of corruption in Nigeria and its implications for socio-economic development. Secondary data on World Bank Report about corruption in Nigeria were analyzed and ordinary Least square regression technique was used to test the hypothesis. The findings pointed out that corruption have negative effects on economic growth. This finding has implications for transparency and accountable application of relevant Laws in dealing with corruption that can lead to improved corruption index that can set in stage an enabling environment for investment that could foster economic growth and development.

It is indeed factual that corruption weigh down on development plans across various departments whether at the devolved systems or at the national levels.Shrabani and Fukmani (2021) on corruption and economic development nexus :variations across income levels in non-linear framework adopted polynomial regression to evaluate any existence of a non-linear relationships after controlling socio-economic and institutional factors .Findings indicated that corruption has negative effect on development .That quadratic function that best fits the data and despite the upsurge of corruption levels substantially. The findings have implications on policies that can effectively reduce the effects of corruption on the society and economic development.

Makiva (2021) on public procurement oversight and scourge of corruption in public sector : A comprise analysis of Kenya and South Africa adopted empirical literature in the public sector in South Africa and Kenya .The study also used qualitative method using cross-country comparative study .Findings show that South Africa and Kenya have met the threshold of procurement standards and define institutional infrastructure prescribed to govern space where public procurement is excercised.however internal controls are weak hence leading to corruption. This necessitate oversight action towards checks on the vice of corruption by the key stakeholders.

Ouma and Shingu (2020) on Entrepreneurship unintended consequences in Kenyan procurement market. The study adopted secondary technique and maintain that procurement management entails upholding ethnic procedures and maintain a correct procedural approach that aims at ensuring quality for money is guaranteed. Findings show that tenderpreneurship significantly lowers ratio for money in the public procurement.

Musau (2015) on effects of government procurement on proper tendering and supply of goods: A Case study of Kenya Pipeline Company adopted a survey design in which 33 respondents were sampled. Questionnaires and interview schedules were used to gather data.

Corruption is a threat to every country in the world including Ukraine.Benziuk and Yavenicuk (2019) on corruption a destructive factor of economic development is categorical on corruption and its effects of economic development and how it interferes with the procurement transactions in the society. The findings show that the National anti-corruption Bureau of Ukraine is given the broad institutional barking to prevent, detect, stop and break corrupt deals that could be initiated by certain characters in the nation. Corruption concerns are being addressed by the anti-corruption Bureau of Unkraine.However, it was worth noting that Ukraine is not corruption free and that corruption have negative consequences on social development.

The issue of corruption has not only posed a great threat to national development in Nigeria but has too affected the households who are denied access to services by the corrupt and the scenario also leads to income disparities with the corrupt having huge resources whereas the poor and less connected continue to languish in poverty .A study by Ibrahim and Lafia (2017) on corruption and socio-economic development in Nigeria: a sociological perspective uses Marxist paradigms in examining the monster of corruption that is deeply rooted in Nigerian society and the impact of corruption of economic development usually with negative effect.

Corruption is deeply entrenched in various societies and hence Iran is not exceptional. Roberto and Majid (2023) on money laundering corruption and scoio-economic development in Iran: an analysis by structuralism equation modelling. The findings show that corruption negatively affect economic growth and development.

Corruption is indeed a thorny issue in Kenya in that it negatively impacts on development agenda that could equitably elevate the society, however the corrupt tend to have their way and thrive in an enabling environment where the stakeholders like the political elites are not having goodwill to confront the monster wholly maybe because could be part and parcel of the vice ,especially when it comes to procuring businesses with the Government and the tendering system .The work of Koech (2019) on effects of corruption on economic crime on economic growth and the implications on national security in Kenya 2005-2016 explored secondary data and is cognizant of the deeply entrenched monster of corruption in the Kenyan socio-superstructure. That Kenya is confronted with myriad of endemic economic crime that increases in magnitude with devastating effects on well-being, security and consequently the entire economy both at the county and national governments. Corruption undermines economic growth through wide range of negative political, economic growth through a wide range of negative political economic, military, societal and environmental effects it engenders. Increased corruption is derived in relations to cost incurred. The net effect are national security threats. Barry Buzmer's framework state that security can be undermined by factors for different sectors namely military, social, economic, political factors. The study was underpinned by a number of theories including: Adam Smith's, David Ricardo, François Quesney, John Stuart Mill and Karl Max posits that high level of corruption represents leakage from economic systems and distort capital creation and allocation of public resources in the form of public investment. Explanatory design was adopted to explain relationships between corruption, economic crime and economic growth in Kenya. Secondary data were drawn from Kenya National Bureau of Statistics (KNBS), Global Finance Integrity (GFI), World Bank (WB) and Transparency International (TI) for the period 2005-2016.The findings show that Kenya's economic performance has been negatively affected by corruption and that deterioration of national security is partially due to the vice of corruption.

Financial crimes are readily committed in societies that seems to be tolerant to the vice and hence the war against it even by the constitutionally established institutions are handicapped and maynoy achieve much in the fight. Kalumie et.al (2023) on socio-economic consequences of corruption and Financial crimes adopted a descriptive survey design in which questionnaires were administered to 200 sample respondents to collect data. The findings revealed that financial crime and corruption has significant consequences by destroying public confidence, weakening public service delivery in sectors such education, health, infrastructural development. It also demolishes private sectors particularly small business enterprises, affect employment level, Gross Domestic Product (GDP), life expectancy, defeat culture, values, ethics of society and eliminates trust, partnerships and collaboration amongst business organizations, public institutions and society. Moreover, the economic consequences of these crimes include inequality and corruption perpetuated poverty in the country. The findings have implications on empowering anti-corruption institutions like the Anti -Corruption commissions like E.A.C.C. and the judiciary and putting in place effective monitoring framework and effective supervision both in the public and private sectors of the economy towards alleviating the monster.

Corruption usually bottleneck the achievement of the planned projects such as infrastructure, essential services such as security health, education amongst others. A study by Omari (2020) on the implications of corruption on Kenya's sustainable Development and economic growth adopts a critical literary review of empirical work and established that corruption is a real threat toward achievement of sustainable development in Kenya towards meeting the blue print on development goals in Kenya Vision 2030.The findings were that corruption impacts on sustainable service delivery in sectors such as education,health,electrical supply,lands,water,transport infrastructure. Finds have implications for key anti-corruption institutions to be empowered and guaranteed independence as guaranteed in the Kenya Constitution 2010 to investigate and prosecute the corrupt and independence of the legal system to try the corrupt and give judgement of the necessary actions to be taken if one is found culpable of corrupt practice.

The corruption level in Kenya has taken a worrying trend and so even the devolved systems implied devolved corruption with those in control of resources plundering and or looting or embezzling the financial resources with the net result of limited achievement of planned development programmes for the countries. Kinyanjui and Misaro (2013) on socio-economic status and participatory development in Kenya adopted survey design in which 100 respondents were interviewed. Devolved fund to the constituencies have steered great development and accomplishment of necessary projects towards social development agenda. Students' bursaries are also apportioned from the same funds hence helping the needy students to meet their academic pursuits. They also provide employment opportunities. However, some corrupt practices in use of CDF funds have also been reported thereby stifling the intended development agenda so that lack of transparency in certain tendering system deny some interested persons to vie for the tenders these are extensions of corrupt practices, violating provisions of Public Procurement Act.

Rot the procurement procedures and or tendering systems in regard to the Government Projects is a worrying trend both at the national and devolved functions in Kenya. Mugathia (2020) on socio-economic implications of corruption in Africa: Case of Nairobi County, Kenya adopted a survey study design in which 50 county officials including 10 Executive Directors and 40 other personal that were purposively and stratified randomly sampled to participate in the study. The study established that corruption deny citizens openness to procurement procedures and so the tendering system is not transparent hence locking out other potential contestants the net result is favoritism, know who leading to inequality in distribution of resources amongst the citizens, it paralyzes service delivery in key public sectors such as health in a nut shell there is a strong negative relationship of corruption in Nairobi County and socio-economic development in the region.

Moral decadence that make people from the Nigerian community untrusted is indeed associated with corruption that is nearly becoming party and parcel of the society, which is essence has weighed down on achievement of development projects that are usually budgeted for in every financial year with the net result of lagging behind in the achievement of the planned projects .Platooned and Laurro (2019) on corruption and socio-economic structures: A case of Nigeria adopted a critical literature review to collect data. They are cognizant of the fact that corruption leads to a rot in social morals and lack of public trust on *modus operandi* of state agencies and the services that they stand to provide therein. The study established that socio-political and economic development, politics, power, history and globalization have contributed towards institutional reforms and have facilitated anti-social practices in Nigeria manifested in the form of moral decadence through corruption.

That corruption in developing countries could deeply rooted in the western economic models and ideologies such as capitalism. Busingye et.al (2024) on prosecuting corruption: A Case study of Kenya and Uganda maintain that in Africa, corruption is inextricably related to the hierarchy ordered exploitation capitalist ideology reminiscence of the western development models and exported to Africa through colonialists. Through capitalism, western powers compulsorily decolonized Africa. In unpack aging and repackaging colonial ideologies because Africa cannot wholly discard them. Findings that corruption undermines integrity in the society, undermine economic growth and defeats global development partnerships and problems at national levels, leading to poor commitments toward higher economic achievement.

Ng'etu et.al (2014) on factors influencing the implementation the three-pronged anti-corruption strategies in Nairobi City, Kenya 2003-2011 was underpinned by Public Choice Theory and gives an analytical deterrence threshold put through enactment of Economic Crimes Act in 2003.The Public Choice Theory explains why once appointed to a public office, one engages in corrupt practices at the expense expected public service delivery. Mixed study design was utilized. The study established that the implementation of the three-thronged ant-corruption strategy was influenced by Government Actors, political players and socio-economic forces.

Weaknesses in anti-corruption strategies in Kenya is real and that is the reason high profiled cases of Corruption like the over 60 Billion Kenya Shillings Arror and Kimwerrer Dams case cannot be logically prosecuted and logically be brought to an end and that lack of political goodwill from the top national political leadership usually frustrate the fight against corruption by the constitutionally independent institutions like the Ethics Anti-Corruption Commision,Director of Public Prosecution, Director of Criminal Investigation who in one way or the other are vetted and appointed by the president in accordance to the Constitution this might hamper them from investigation a corruption case that could be directly or indirectly linked to the head of the state and hence weakness of the system .

Maraga (2020) on corruption in the Sub-Saharan Africa: Exploring anti-corruption strategies in Kenya and Somalia uses secondary data on anti-corruption interventions by both governments. The study established that even though corruption is deeply rooted in both nations, weak anti-corruption strategies have been put in place and consequently the vice continues unabated with its negative socio-economic consequences. That there is lack of good will those in power to committedly support the war against corruption. That in Kenya for example the E.A.C.C. even though is constitutionally entrenched and that it should be autonomous, those in power tend to interfere with the investigations in high profiled corruption cases in which suspiciously those occupying power could be directly or indirectly linked as such no justice would be found by society through the institution towards investigating and prosecuting the corrupt characters who plunders public resources. The findings have implications for a joint social transformation through sensitization of the public of the gaps that corruption brings and the civil society and the opposition politicians to put government of the day on checks and balances on matters of corruption to empower the anti-corruption bodies materially, financially, through manpower training/capacity building and giving them the room to exercise their mandate as an autonomous institution as enshrined Law.

Bribery is near becoming a norm in Kenyan society both at the national and county governments with those who give bribes seeking favor from the bribed. Odhiambo (2015) on Determinants of corruption in Kenya: Born and Bred to Bribe uses literature review and cites cases of major corruption scandals in Kenya dating from 1980s to the 90s and into the 21st century. The included Goldenberg, Turkwell Water Project, Grand Regency Scandal of 2008, Triton oil scandal 2009, Anglo-Leasing Scandal, Eurobond Scandal, Arror-Kimwerrer Multi-Purpose water Project Scandal amongst others leading to fleecing public resources ending in pockets of the few corrupt individuals. Despite the attempts to fight corruption, it continues unabated through individual factors those paying bribes to seek favor. Survey data of Afro

Barometer Round 5 survey the Probit analysis model shows corruption in Kenya influenced by gender, race, ethnicity, religion, employment skills, education while age and religion location were not significant determinant of corruption. Others include occupying position of power e.g. Political leadership.

Mitchell and Cornell (2016) on Devolution in Kenya: Everybody's turn to eat? Uses literature review while being cognizant of public complaints on high levels of corruption in the devolved units of Kenya, which have in essence promoted ethnic patronage and regional ethnic balkanization and the protected runaway corrupt practices. The public procurement Act not adhered to in the tendering system while those awarded tenders have to giver kickbacks to those who grant them business opportunities which are not floated openly for contestants for purposes of transparency within the framework of legal process. The trend of corruption in devolved units has been sky rocketing to a degree that a wheel barrow that in real sense is about Kenya shillings Six-Thousand was bought at a cost of Kenya Shillings 100,000 in some county in Kenya and many other scandals. In Migori County Government for instance during the 2013-2017 political period, hundreds of millions of Kshs were plundered by the Governor by then and the attempts to prosecute the suspect has been frustrated by vested political interests from current national Government's Political Leadership.

On the Question of the effects of corruption on Access to Government's tenders

The run-away corruption of worth billions of Kenyan Projects linked to political elites usually go unconcluded due to political interference with the net result of society continuously languishing in poverty due to the state's uncompleted multi-purpose projects and or insfrastructure.Odongo (2017) on a review of the changing nature of corruption in the post-independent Kenya gives an analytical metamorphosis that corruption has taken in Kenya since the 1960s through to the 70s to 1980s to 90s into the high level looting and plundering of public resources to a scale characteristic of the 21st century Kenya. That in the 1960s through to the 1970s the corruption levels were low to the levels of 10%,20% of senior government officials demanding kickbacks from tender awards. However, the 1990s took an alarmingly high demands of nearly fifty-fifty per cent share between the tenderer and tenderee.Huge corruption scandals have been reported in Kenya during post-independence period including Goldenberg, Anglo-Leasing, Arror-Kimwerrer multi-billion dams scandal, and the recent corruption report by the Office of Comptroller of Budget of Kshs 35 billion being plundered in both County and National governments between 2013 and 2022 and another 5.7 billion Kshs these being payments for ghost workers in the same period. The study used exploratory approach. The study established that the fight against corruption in Kenya has largely been still –born and ineptitude has been demonstrated by E.A.C.C. in the war against the vice and that the Government of Kenya has failed to adopt effective measures against corruption. Bodies such as transparency international have been concerned about the high levels of corruption Sub-Saharan Africa that derails development initiative achievements.

Corruption has a negative effect on achieving sustainable development goals in the society. Ajie and Wokekoro (2018) on impact of corruption on sustainable economic growth and development in Nigeria uses literary review in which they established that corruption which is deeply entrenched in the Nigerian society has led to deteriorating public service delivery, stalling of major project initiatives, acute unemployment, and week anti -corruption agencies in Nigeria and lack of effective measures by the state towards uprooting out and or alleviating this deeply rooted vice that taint the image of the country before bodies like transparency international as one of the most corrupt countries in the world and top in the African continent. Corruption has serious negative impact on sustainable economic growth in Nigeria.

Human rights approach model can be used to fight corruption however with lack of good will from the political elites very little may be achieved in the war against corruption. Kariuki (2013) on toward human rights approach to fighting corruption in Kenya is underpinned by the Constitution 2010 that talks about human rights including social, economic, security, health, education and human dignity. The study established that corruptions negatively affect delivery of this services that are basically a human right.

Traffic Police in Kenya seems to quite corrupt and is like a norm for them to get money from the vehicles especially those ferrying passengers Onyango (2022) on the Art of bribery! Analysis of Police corruption ant traffic checkpoints and roadblocks in Kenya uses literature review giving a detailed concern over deeply entrenched corruption of traffic police whose role in the roadblock s is more of collection of bribes from the motorists rather appropriated duties of finding the roadworthiness, insurance compliance amongst other requirements. The drivers are indoctrinated to believe that is all but giving the necessary 'contribution' to the police 'as usual'- this is the 'rules of the game incline'.

Onyango (2022) on Bureaucratic Corruption and Maladministration in Kenya: A Bureaucratic analysis did literary review and is cognizant that understanding bureaucratic corruption and maladministration in Africa is hinged on political drives of the state and governance foci. The study crafts and apply administrative rituals approach to bureaucratic analysis to explore institutional and normative synergies of corrupt and maladministration in Kenya. Knowledge of anti-corruption laws, public servants in Kenya but they still deviate from them and take the route of that reduce public accountability strategies to mere administrative ritual.

Mwithu (2017) on Mitigating corruption in Kenyan Judiciary: a case study of Legal and administrative anti-corruption framework. Corruption is deeply trenched in Kenya beginning with the countries to political leadership down to a junior civil servant have in one way or the other plundered public resources. Kenya in the 1980s and 1990s had a judiciary that was deeply corrupts so that justice's judgements would generally be delivered in favor of those who gave bribes to the judge. Suspiciously corruption is still in the Kenyan Judicial system and the scenario justice would be denied to those who in the real sense of the law deserve it in whatever nature of the case whether criminal or civil. These findings have implications for the need for framework of monitoring corrupt judicial officers and taking appropriate legally stipulated steps against them.

Makiva (2021) on Public procurement oversight and the scourge of corruption in Public Sector: a comparative analysis of South Africa and Kenya underscores the robustness of Public procurement process and adopted qualitative technique using cross-country comparative study. The findings were that both Kenya and South Africa in their procurement transactions conform to the international standards threshold in designing, institutionalizing and articulating procurement in the public sector. However, the challenge is seen in the internal controls are largely used as a front to lick a box and these weak internal controls seems to be deliberate and hence paving avenues for corruption. The finding has implications for policy and direction givers to oversight the procurement transactional process toward effectiveness and efficiency and hence gaining the value

Mredula (2018) on impact of corruption on sustainable development: A simultaneous Equations Model Estimation uses Kuznets's curve in 47 Countries panel analysis drawn from Asia, Africa and Latin American counties and the Carribbeans.Estimates were based on elasticity of socio-economic and environmental development indicators with regard to corruption based on some macroeconomic fundamentals on the data between 2000-2015.Framework estimates threshold level of income at which environmental degradation take place and economic growth Panel unit cost and integrated tests were used. The three-stage least square squares (3 SLS) estimation used to work out associated elasticities. Moreover, in order to check robustness of relationship, Panel Vector Error Crech Model (VECM) and Granger Causality test are also to understand the short and Long-run causality association of the variables in the light of estimated results corruption is established to have negative relationships with socio-economic development across Asia, Africa and Latin America Subpanel. In addition, corruption negatively affects environmental development in the context of Asia, Africa and Latin America Subpanels. Moreover, the findings suggest that EKC hypothesis hold truly only on the cases of panel of LAC subpanel with GDP of around 12,000 US Dollars and 12,780, respectively. The paper establishes short-run bidirectional causality between corruption and socio-economic development in Asia, Africa and LAC subpanels.

Philly et.al (2017) on effects of corruption on Procurement performance in Referral hospitals in Kenya :A case of Kenyatta National Hospital adopted survey study designing which a questionnaire was administered to collect data and used Solvin’s Formula to pick 131 respondents for the study from a target population of 194 .Findings were that influence of conflict of interest in Procurement .process in KNH is there and it is necessary that organizational interests are paramount for purposes of objectivity and the value for money. It calls for stakeholders’ intervention to ensure free fair and accountable procurement procedures that meets the legal threshold, regulations and policy direction that would ensure effectiveness of the transaction that is procedurally fair.

Nderitu and Karanja (2016) on effect of reserved tendering on procurement performance in sate corporations in Kenya adopted survey design and presents tendering systems that is considerate of everybody spelt out in Law for example 30% to the people with special needs. That uptake of reserved tendering system in state corporations has impact on procurement performance. Agency and DuPont theories underpinned the study. From the target population of 210 sate corporations,21 corporations forming 10% of the total were sampled from the study. Out of a total of 236 employees,76 were sampled from the study. Findings indicated that all variables in the tendering process including preparation of tender document, invitation to tender, evaluation of bids, selection and contract award were found to be statistically significant in Kenya.

Mambo et.al (2019). Corruption and implications for Development and good governance: A perspective of post- colonial Africa uses literary analytics and maintain that Weak political systems and weak institutions and hence the upsurge of corruption. A number of the top political class in Africa have looted and plundered public resources thereby weakening the socio-economic and politics of a number of nations sometimes translating into insecurity, high unemployment and poverty and inequality with the corrupt appearing to be doing well.

Okafor et.al (2014) on kleptocracy, nepotism, kakistocracy: Impact of corruption in Sub-Saharan African Counties uses literary criticism and are cognizant of the fact that corruption hampers both human and economic development. A foe of transparency and ethical business ambiance. The study establishes that corruption has negative relationships with quality of government accounting and bottlenecks economic development initiatives.

Mukuniyi (2019) on impediments to effective investigation of corrupt cases in Kenya: A Case of E.A.C.C. used a survey study design in which at the time of study had total workers of 238 out of whom 79 respondents were sampled to participate in the study. Instruments used to gather data included questionnaires, interviews with heads of departments of E.A.C.C. Findings were that despite E.A.C.C. have the constitutional entrenchment as independent, it suffered from political interference and has to adequate autonomy to investigate corruption cases competently and prosecute them in accordance to the law. Sometimes they are incapacitated by limited government's budgetary allocation towards effectiveness of discharging it constitutional mandate and funding depends of good will of government of the day.

Tomola and Olayiwola (2021) on corruption and economic growth in India and Nigeria are cognizant of the fact that India and Nigeria have low income. The study adopted Malthusian (2001) framework for investigating corruption acquired data from World Bank, and calculated corruption index. Other variables examined included population growth rate, trade openness, education, agricultural output, industry and service sectors. Correlation statistic between group and GDP growth rate. Ordinary Least Squares regression was used to estimate effect of corruption on economic growth. The study found out that: corruption stifled economic growth when measure of human capital, political stability and capital finance are not included in the case of India. That corruption has positive effect on economic growth when measure of human capital, political instability and capital influence are used interchangeably and combined together for India. That corruption stifle economic growth when measure of human capital, political instability and capital creation were both included and excluded in estimates for Nigeria. The findings showed that corruption adversely affected economic growth and investment in human capital in both countries.

Nemomingyi et.al (2018) on the Dynamics of Political Corruption and Neo-Patrimonialism in Kenya are cognizant of Ethnic mobilization/grouping towards gaining political landscapes that has been the trend and still remain the order of political game play in Africa.

Arrobi (2014) on corruption and underdevelopment in Africa: discourse approach the study was underpinned by both dependency and modernist. Africa has huge quantity of resources and potentials for economic growth and development. Monster of corruption has been a great bottleneck towards achievement of Africa's development initiatives as many huge public projects get to stall and or half accomplished.

Okwomi et.al (2020) on Prevalence of corruption within administrative police service in Kenya: A Case of Kirinyaga County are cognizant of the menace of corruption especially in amongst the police. The study adopted survey design the target population of 500 administrations out of whom 50 were sampled for the study. Findings showed that 77% of respondents reported corruption amongst the AP especially when one wants promotion money exchange hands and that for women Aps in their quest for promotion they are even asked for sexual favors. But 23% of the respondents were opposed to corruption claims. Ngugi (2017) on Administrative and political corruption in Rural Kenya: It takes two to tango utilized literature review. The study established that public officers seem to be corrupt in embezzling funds belonging to the public a situation that paralyzes service delivery and non-accomplishment of public development initiatives.

A study by Jane (2013) on impact of corruption on service delivery in the Ministry of Lands 2001-2013 was categorical of deeply rooted corruption in the Ministry of Lands of Kenya. The study explored literature and that the situation leads to questionable integrity of supply-chain process resulting into delays and loss of revenue and damage to trade relationship. The vice deters investors from coming in including Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) especially in the supply-chain transaction. Economically it lowers tax revenue, lower resources for funding and affect other services and it also leads to income inequality and generally negatively affect socio-economic development.

Dahida and Akangbe (2013) on Corruption as a bane for under-development in Nigeria: issues and challenges uses literary criticisms and is cognizant that Leaderships in Nigeria that tends to Condon corruption, unemployment crisis, high poverty levels, weak law enforcement institutions, political corruption, have all exacerbated corruption among the Nigerian social fabric. This requires re-think social change towards controlling the vice through improved leadership styles with commitment towards eliminating corruption, strengthening and empowering anti-corruption law enforcement institutions and entire community sensitization of the need to get rid of corruption as a significant goal of the entire Nigerian social fabric.

Makokha (2014) on corruption in the state corporations in Kenya: compliance with corporate governance standards as a measure to combat corruption used literature review and established that corruption that seems deeply rooted in most of state corporations are a detriment towards achievement of good service delivery and fairness in all spheres of socio-economic transaction therein.

Lugulu (2023) on corruption in Kenya during the Covid-19 Pandemic the right to health: Lessons Learnt and future prospects used literature review focusing on International conventions on anti-corruption concerns that Kenya has ascribed to for example the United Nations Convention against Corruption, the African Convention on Prevention and Combating Corruption, internally Kenya has the anti-corruption law institutions such as the Ethics and Anti-Corruption Commission (E.A.C.C.),the Office of Director of Public Prosecutions (DPP) and Directorate of Criminal Investigations (DCI) that have the powers to investigate and prosecute the corruption related issues in Kenya.

Githinji (2017) on corruption in Kenya Police Force and Impacts on Kenyan Security: Investigating the need for Reforms uses literature review and established that deep rooted corruption in police service is indeed a threat to national security, with devastating effects in Kenya towards socio-economic development and national cohesion.

Obrempong and Wanja (2021) on the war of Hearts: An examination of the menace of corruption in Kenya adopts a theological approach as the centrifuge around which corruption need to be fought in Kenya and cognizant that corruption is the root cause of socio-economic ills that bedevil the Kenyan Society that threatens the well -being of the Kenyan citizens. That it requires transformational approach in the hearts as a mechanism towards ridding off the vice from the society towards moral uprightness.

Okeyo and Oduno (2014) on corruption, governance and Public spending in Nigeria: implications for economic Growth adopts a literary review approach and are in agreement that corruption is a scourge and a social malaise that work against good governance, using public spending as a conduit to slow down the pace of economic growth in Nigeria as every opportunity in public spending presents a space for the key actors to exaggerate the expenditure while remaining with huge amounts of public resources for their own personal pockets-the behavior characteristic of an amoral society.

Implications/value/Novelty or urgency of the study

The study of this magnitude has implications for the Kenya Government of the day to re-invent/rethink morally through giving space to the anti-Corruption independent institutions such as E.A.C.C.,DPP, and DCI to exercise their independent constitutional mandate to investigate and prosecute the corrupt and present them to Judiciary to subject them to lens of the relevant laws and those found culpable be punished accordingly to discourage and control the vice .This study is urgent and valuable given that it is addressing one of the greatest constraint toward sustainable development in Kenya-Corruption that is conclusively and logically addressed Kenyan society would achieve monumental and sustainable socio-economic to a scale that would guarantee the society timely socio-economic elevation, with all equity, pride, peaceful co-existence and justice in an effective citizenry.

Conclusions

The study established that corruption is deeply rooted in the Kenyan society and that it is indeed a bottleneck towards realization of sustainable socio-economic development in the society. But certain studies in are skeptical as to whether it can be concluded with confidence that it is corruption other than inefficiencies in the governance systems that are responsible for slowed socio-economic growth. Some study findings on some 40 firms in Africa showed that corruption boosted their profits and market of their products and services and hence gave them great leverage in the business transactions. However, generally studies even through the Afro barometer demonstrates that African countries lose billions in part of their Gross Domestic Products to corruption, Kenya not exceptional. The scenario is a derailed economic growth and development due to deeply rooted and near-culture corruption. That there exist anti-corruption arrangements both internationally and nationally that Kenya ratifies towards her quest towards ridding off corruption. However, the international mechanisms towards fighting corruption has proved near futile as it depends on political good of the top political elites. That even though the Constitution of Kenya 2010 grants independence to the anti-corruption bodies like the E.A.C.C., DPP, and the DCI, high profiled corruption cases many a times collapse for example the huge scandals on state initiated multi-purpose Dam Projects of Arror and Kimwerrer that have had over kshs.60 billion looted, whereas the projects never took-off on the first instance, and at the moment no body is held to account. That Corruption in Kenya has led to tendering and procurement systems with the Government of Kenya not transparent and hence the opportunities to be a tendered with the state depends on the connections with key characters to whom kickbacks are given this leads inequitable distribution on wealth and resources in the society. That infrastructural developments have had their costs either exaggerated and or slowed down and or done poorly due to corrupt transactions translating into overall gaps in socio-economic development and strain in the society.

Recommendations

Based on the study findings the following recommendations were made: That the Government of Kenya should take the initiative of rethinking strengthening the anti-graft institutions in Kenya within the framework of constitutional provisions towards ensuring a fair public finance management scheme that is practically fair in procurement transactions without compromising the supplies and project completions in a way that is timely and reflecting the values for the money so spent. The government should sensitize the people towards a need for a corruption free nation that will go along ensuring equitable distribution of resources and equal opportunities for all Kenyan citizens, irrespective of race, ethnic divide, religion, geospatial region all that is geared towards a civilized citizenry in business transactions

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