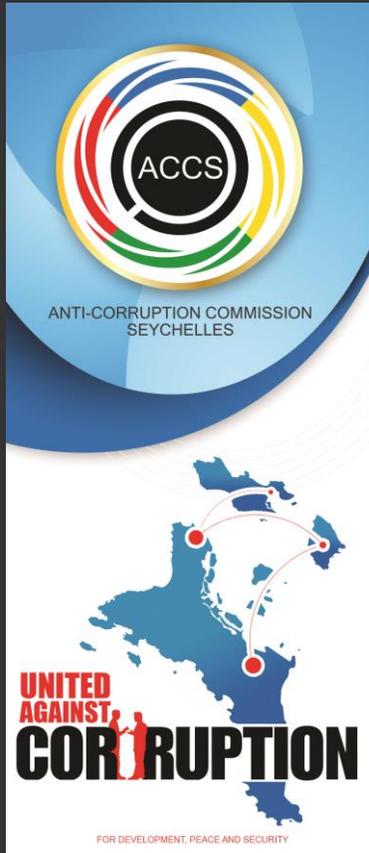




ANTI-CORRUPTION COMMISSION  
SEYCHELLES



# Public Opinion Survey on Corruption in Seychelles.

**Prevention and Education  
Department**

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## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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This Public Opinion Survey on corruption have been made possible with the participation of citizens of Seychelles.

The Anti-Corruption Commission Seychelles (ACCS) is grateful for the participation of all those who made this survey project possible; and for their collaborative efforts in laying the basis for combating corruption in the country.

ACCS also wants to thank Mr. Roland Alcindor of the United Nation Development Programme (UNDP) for facilitating the funding of the project, as well as his staff from the UNDP office in Seychelles.

ACCS is also grateful to Miss Christina Samson form the Seychelles Postal Services for her endless support towards the project.

Without their contributions and efforts this project would not have been possible.

## Rationale

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Public Opinion Survey on corruption is the first of its kind to be conducted in Seychelles. It is an initiative of the Anti-Corruption Commission Seychelles (ACCS). This survey will provide a baseline and comparison for future research and analysis. It will also help the Prevention and Education Department of the Anti-Corruption Commission Seychelles (ACCS) to better formulate its plan and objectives for its Prevention and Education programme in its fight against corruption.

Findings from this survey will confirm the existence of corruption in Seychelles. It will also provide valuable insight into the level of corruption in the country. Analysed data will then be used to help government, civil society and the private sector to formulate and implement policies and programs to improve management and governance in the country and thus reduce corrupt practices.

This first ever Public Opinion Survey on Corruption in Seychelles has been conducted with its primary objectives to document and measure corruption by analysing the nature and interpretation of corrupt practices which the public encounter.

On behalf of the Prevention and Education department and the Anti-Corruption Commission Seychelles as a whole, I would like to express my sincere appreciation to the Seychelles Postal Services and all the respondents who willingly assisted us in executing this survey. I appreciated the role of all the staff of ACCS have played, especially those from the Prevention and Education Department for successfully conducting the survey.

Working from a low budget being a donation by the United Nation Development Programme (UNDP), it was necessary to focus on the pertinent issues of corruption which could be easily interpreted.

## Methodology

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A self-administered questionnaire was developed using nine short and simple closed-end questions and one open-ended questions about corruption, in English and Creole (being the native language)

The reason for using the self-administered questionnaire were based on the following reasons:

- Small budget.
- Lack of human resources to administer Interviewer-administered questionnaires, hence easier for the questioning of the large number of people.
- Perceived as more anonymous and may therefore yield more accurate data on sensitive issues.
- No interviewer biases.

The questionnaire was structured to monitor and evaluate knowledge, attitudes and practices relating to corruption and corrupt practices. The survey was designed to provide specific data to be used by ACCS in developing project monitoring and communications and evaluation plans, such as public awareness of the existence of ACCS and its purpose; ACCS's impact in terms of reporting corruption; sensitivity and involvement of citizens in governance; public perceptions regarding other institutions; and awareness and perceptions of the role of ACCS in fighting corruption.

This project is a baseline study to be followed by subsequent surveys to provide comparative data about the level of corruption in Seychelles and measure the ACCS Strategic Plan in line with its Performance Indicators.

The questionnaires were post-paid and mailed to the respondents. They only had to complete and send it back to the post office or hand it over to the postman/postwoman on their other visits.

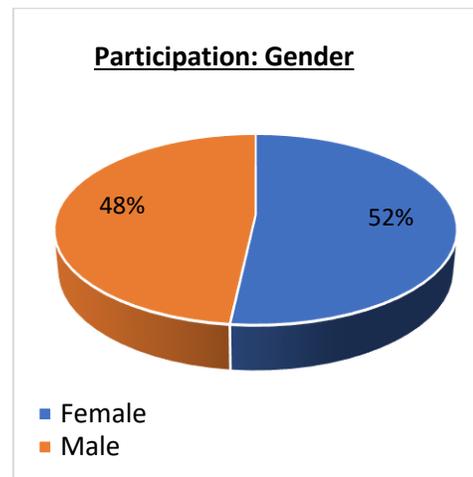
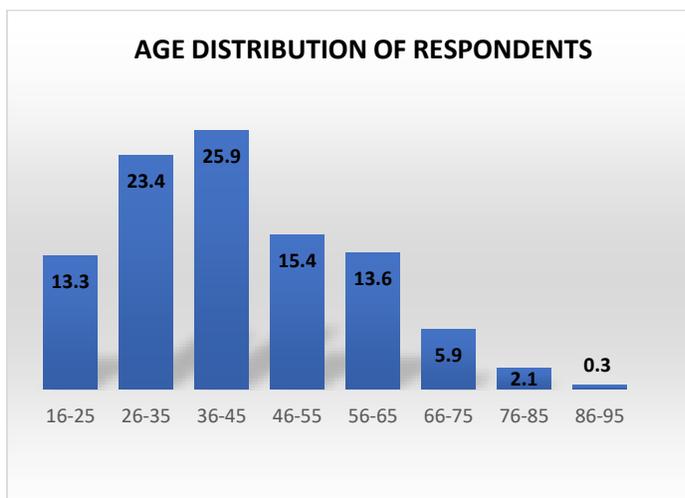
## Sample size, Frame and Stratification

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A sample size of 15,000 respondents from the three main islands, Mahé, Praslin and La Digue was targeted representing 50% of the total number of household in the country.

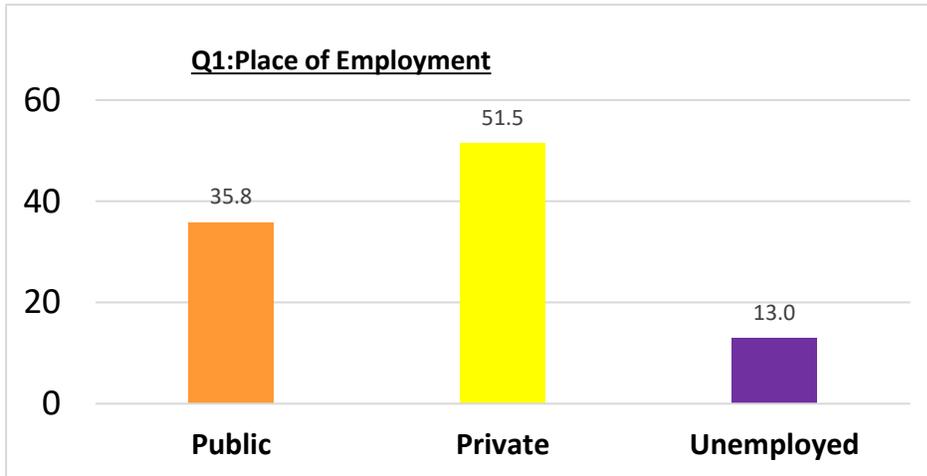
### Summary of analysis

People from the age of 17 to 88 years old participated in the survey and 48% of the respondents were male while 52% were female which shows no marginal gender disparity.



### Place of Employment of respondents.

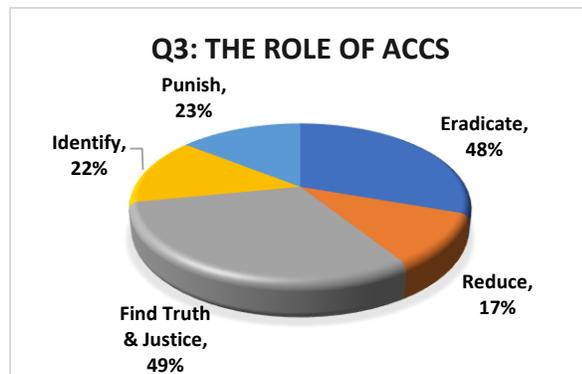
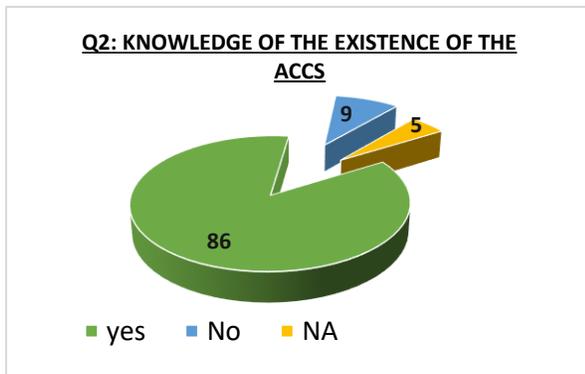
More people in the private sector responded to the survey with a percentage of 51.5, whereas 35.8% were from the public sector. Only 13% of the respondents were unemployed.



### Existence of ACCS and its role

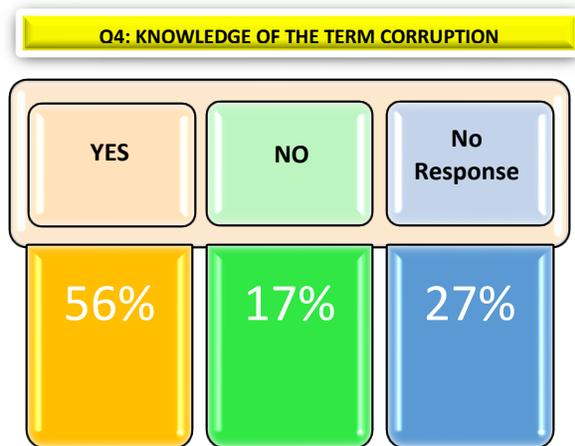
The survey indicated that the majority of the participants are aware of the existence of the Ant-Corruption Seychelles, with a score of 86%.

All the respondent had an understanding of the role of ACCS. People gave multiple answers though they could not prioritise its main role.



## Knowledge of the term corruption

More than half of the respondents have an understanding of the term corruption. However, 27% of them did not respond to the question. This does not necessarily mean that they do not know. It may also mean that they could not interpret it, whereas 17% do not know what corruption is.



Some interesting answers from the respondents are listed below.

- Dishonest and unethical behaviour by anyone in a position of authority.
- A group of rich, greedy and thieving individuals who rob, blackmail and profit on hardworking and low-income individuals for their personal gain and benefits.
- *Fer tou mal pour annan ou prop lobzektif.* (i.e. Do everything wrong for the benefit of your personal agenda.)
- *Ler ou vinn ris lo kouraz lezot.* (i.e. when you become rich on the courage of others)

## The level of Corruption in Seychelles

The level of corruption was considered to be very high by 82.8% of the respondents. Only 2.7% of the respondents thought corruption levels were low. Though only 56% of the respondent could explain the term corruption, a greater percentage agreed that the level of corruption is high, which could therefore indicate that more people know what corruption is, than what the results show.

Q5: The Level of Corruption	
Low	2.7
High	82.8
Medium	11.4
None	0.3
NA	2.7

### In which sector do you think there is more corruption?

Though more people who participated in the survey were from the private sector, 69% of the respondents stated that there is more corruption in the public sector. Only 9% stated that corruption is more common in the public sector while 16% mention both the public and private sector.

Q6: In which sector do you think there is more corruption?	
Public	69%
Private	9%
Both	16%
NA/Don't Know	6%

The level of corruption is perceived to be higher in the Offshores sector (52.1%), followed by the construction sector with 25.6%. Corruption was considered least common in the Tourism sector.

<b>Q7: GRADE THE FOUR SECTORS FROM THE HIGHEST (1) LOWEST (4) IN TERMS OF MOST CORRUPT PRACTICES.</b>				
	Offshores	Tourism	Fisheries	Constructions
Rating	%	%	%	%
<b>1</b>	<b>52.1</b>	13.3	14.2	25.6
<b>2</b>	13.0	20.2	18.1	21.1
<b>3</b>	6.3	22.9	19.9	19.3
<b>4</b>	17.5	18.7	22.6	11.1

**The Main Causes of corruption.**

Most of the respondents perceive greed and abuse of power as the main causes for corruption.

A significant percentage agreed that low income is also a cause for corruption.

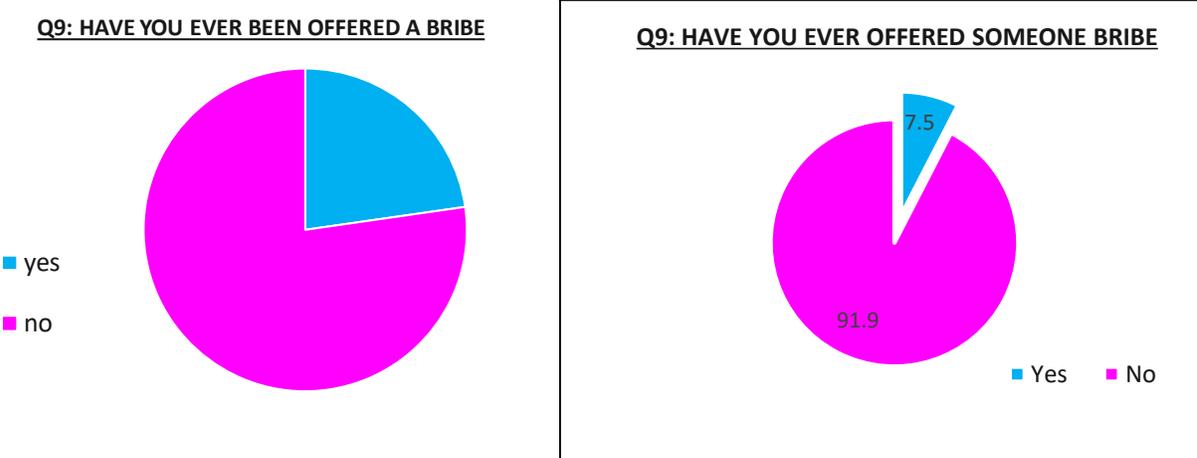
There was also 25% of the respondents who perceived the main causes of corruption to be both greed and abuse of power. Conflict of Interest was found to be the least cause for corruption.

<b>Q8: MAIN CAUSES OF CORRUPTION</b>	
Low income	22.3
Greed/Private Gain	34.9
Conflict of interest	8.4
Abuse of power	34.6



More people have been offered a bribe than have offer to give a bribe. Though being only 22.6% of the respondents who have been offered a bribe, such amount proves significant in the Seychelles context being a country with a small population.

The knowledge of bribes further indicates that more respondents are aware of the act of corrupt practices than what is shown from the response of question 4, about what do they know about the word corruption. This is also strengthened when they were asked about whether they have ever offered a bribe, of which the 91.1% said no.



## Conclusion

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The findings from this survey indicate that corruption is perceived to really exist in Seychelles. Though it does not paint a good picture of the status of corruption in Seychelles, they do identify reasons for optimism.

It is encouraging to note that though most of the respondents perceive the level of corruption as being very high, only less than a quarter of them believed a primary factor causing corruption is low income. This therefore as in the case for Seychelles, contradict the widespread perception that most corrupt acts result from low income and subsequently economic hardship.

Some respondents indicated their frustration against corrupt practices in the country. They did so by naming specific organisation and individuals though it was not required of them to do so. Some who gave bribe even stated their reason for doing so.

It is important to state that this was a Public Perception survey. The data reflect the ideas, beliefs and judgments of the citizens who participated in the survey and likely represent the views of general public. It is with considerable confidence that the Anti-corruption Commission Seychelles can use its results to create strategies to address corruption in Seychelles.

By conducting this survey, the ACCS has already created an awareness and signal its intention in its fight against corruption.

# Appendix

## 2017 Public Opinion Survey on Corruption : Questionnaire

Mit an ak abazakek lajepons ki ou wot pl apwolye detwe ou propriyete personal o leksepans

Laz: \_\_\_\_\_ Seks: \_\_\_\_\_

**1. Dan ki sèktè ou travay:**

Piblik/Gouverman

Prive/Biznes

Pa travay

**2. Eski ou'n deza antann nonm Komisyon Anti-Koripsyon?**

Wi  Non

**3. Ki ou kwat l rol prensipal Komisyon Anti-Koripsyon? (ou kapab tik plis ki an lajepans)**

Elimin koripsyon  Idantifye koripsyon

Redwir Koripsyon  Pini bann ki fer koripsyon

Rod laverite ek lazaris

**4. Ki ou konpran par sa mo koripsyon?**

\_\_\_\_\_

**5. Dapre ou lekseparyans, ki sivo koripsyon ou kwat l eta aktyelman dan Sesel?**

En pli gin  Mwayen

Bokou  Napa ditou

**6. Dan ki sèktè eski ou kwat l annan plis koripsyon?**

Piblik/Gouverman  Prive/Biznes

**7. Grad sa kat sèktè swivan par konmans pli o (1) pour pli ba (4) ki ou kwat koripsyon l ganny pratik plis.**

Finans  Tourizm

Lapee  Konstriksyon

**8. Ki bann lakoz koripsyon? Swazir sa enn ki pli apwolye:**

En salet ba  Konfli lantere

Vorasite/benefes personel  Labi pouvwir

**9. Eski ou'n deza ganny ofar gous?**

Wi  Non

**10. Eski ou'n deza ofer on dimoun gous?**

Wi  Non

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Republic of Seychelles

**Corruption!!!**

Governments and businesses around the world lose large amounts of money each year because of fraud and corruption and Seychelles is no exception. These unethical practices mean people who need services the most – like children, disabled people and the elderly – are the ones who suffer, while criminals reap the benefits.

**Contact us:**

Anti-Corruption Commission Seychelles  
Victoria House (4th Floor)  
P.O Box 1456, Victoria, Mahé

T: +248 4 326 061  
Report corruption: [complaints@accsey.com](mailto:complaints@accsey.com)  
Office Hours: Monday to Friday (8am – 4pm)

Empowered lives. Resilient nations.

ANTI-CORRUPTION COMMISSION SEYCHELLES



ANTI-CORRUPTION COMMISSION SEYCHELLES



**UNITED AGAINST CORRUPTION**

FOR DEVELOPMENT, PEACE AND SECURITY



**Honesty and integrity**

**ensure success**

*"There is no compromise when it comes to corruption. You have to fight it."*  
-A.K. Antony

**ABOUT US**

ACCS is a self-governing, neutral and independent body whose mandate is to investigate and detect corruption as well as educate and raise awareness.

**WE ARE LED BY:**

**Our Mission:**  
We are committed to fighting corruption through effective investigation, detection and prevention of corrupt practices for a corruption free Seychelles.

**Our Vision:**  
To be a robust institution that fosters a corruption free society in an environment of integrity, accountability and transparency. To raise awareness and promote the values of honesty and integrity among people.

**OUR FUNCTIONS ARE TO:**

- hold enquiry into allegations of corruption
- file cases on the basis of enquiry or investigation and to conduct cases.
- perform the functions assigned to the Commission by the Anti-Corruption Act 2016 or under any written law.
- review and recognise provisions of laws for the prevention of corruption and submit recommendations to the President for effective implementation.
- identify various causes of corruption in the context of socio-economic conditions of the Republic.
- co-ordinate and co-operate, as applicable, with other institutions authorised to investigate, prosecute, prevent and combat corrupt practices so as to implement an integrated approach to the eradication of corruption.
- consult, co-operate and exchange information with appropriate bodies of other countries that are authorised to conduct inquiries or investigations in relation to corrupt practices.
- raise awareness and promote the values of honesty and integrity among people with a view to prevent corruption.
- organise seminars, symposiums, workshops on the subjects falling within the functions and duties of the Commission.

*"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."*

*Just Lips Chair of Transparency International*

**Your feedback can help us stop corruption!!**

This is the first anti-corruption survey of its kind to be conducted in Seychelles. It is a very strategic step towards formulating a benchmark of the public perception of corruption.

The aim of this survey is to collect a large volume of data and make an analysis on corruption in our country.

In order for ACCS to be more efficient we are conducting a survey to establish the level of corruption in our country and formulate plans to push forward the fight against corruption.

We count on your participation and valuable contribution towards this survey to make it a success!

Empowered lives. Resilient nations.

ANTI-CORRUPTION COMMISSION SEYCHELLES

Please tick/!! in the most appropriate answers according to your personal views and experience.

Age: \_\_\_\_\_ Gender: \_\_\_\_\_

**1. Your place of work:**

Public/Government

Private/Business

Unemployed

**2. Were you aware of the existence of the Anti-Corruption Commission?**

Yes  No

**3. What do you think is the main role of the Anti-Corruption Commission?**

Eradicate corruption  Identify corruption

Reduce corruption  To give punishment

Find truth & Justice

**4. What do you understand by the word corruption?**

\_\_\_\_\_

**5. What do you think is the level of corruption in Seychelles?**

Low  Medium

High  None at all

**6. In which sector do you think there is more corruption?**

Public/Government  Private/Business

**7. Grade these four sectors from the highest (1) to lowest (4) in terms of most corrupt practices?**

Offshores  Fisheries

Tourism  Construction

**8. What do you think are the main causes of corruption? Pick the most suitable one:**

Low income  Conflict of interest

Greed/private gain  Abuse of power

**9. Have you ever been offered a bribe?**

Yes  No

**10. Have you ever offered someone a bribe?**

Yes  No





ANTI-CORRUPTION COMMISSION  
SEYCHELLES

**United against**  
**CORRUPTION**  
**for development, peace and security**

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