CORRUPTION IS EATING US UP:
A Call To Action

Survey Report on Citizens' Knowledge, Perceptions and Experiences of Corruption in the

PRU DISTRICT

USAID FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

Ghana Integrity Initiative (GII)
Local Chapter of Transparency International

gacc
Ghana Anti-Corruption Coalition

The Ghana Integrity Initiative (GII) Consortium was established in 2014, comprising GII, Ghana Anti-Corruption Coalition (GACC) and SEND GHANA to implement a 4-year USAID funded project titled "Accountable Democratic Institutions and Systems Strengthening (ADISS)" in 50 districts across the ten regions of Ghana.

ADISS seeks to renew and build upon on-going efforts and also increase the capacities of anti-corruption CSOs to motivate citizens to apply pressure on policy makers and institutions through a number of targeted and focused actions with the aim to reduce corruption in Ghana.

Compiled and Edited by ADISS Research Team

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FIGURE   **PAGE**

1.0 BACKGROUND

1.1 Knowledge, Perceptions and Experiences of Corruption Survey

The GII Consortium (comprising Ghana Integrity Initiative, Ghana Anti-Corruption Coalition, and SEND GHANA) conducted a Survey on the Knowledge, Perceptions and Experiences of Corruption in 50 districts across the 10 regions of Ghana. Research on the prevalence of corruption had always focused on perception and often aggregated at national level. This survey is novel in capturing citizens' actual experiences of corruption within their districts, focusing on where and how corruption manifests in their daily lives. This report, provides district specific evidence as the basis for engaging district level government institutions and stakeholders with the aim to reducing corruption at the subnational level.

1.2 Research Aim/ Objectives

The primary aim of the research was to assess the state of citizens' knowledge on corruption, perceptions and actual experiences on corruption at the district level. The specific objectives were:
1. To assess citizens' understanding of corruption;
2. To know citizens' assessment of the level of corruption in their districts;
3. To know how and where citizens experience corruption at the district level.

2.0 METHODOLOGY

2.1 Scope and Sampling

Sample for the study was determined by means of stratified random sampling. Each district was stratified based on the various settlements; urban, peri-urban and rural. For the sample size determination, the margin of error was +/-5% and at 95% confidence level. The population of each district was used to determine the appropriate sample size. The average sample size of the districts was 384. The same sampling methodology was adopted for all the 50 targeted districts.

2.2 Research Design and Tool

This was a research survey where data consistent with the objectives of the study was collected using a questionnaire. The questionnaire was categorized into three (3) sections. The sections sought information regarding:
I. Demographic Characteristics of Respondents
II. Knowledge of Corruption
III. Perceptions and Experiences of Corruption

2.3 Sources and Methods of Data Collection

The survey collected primary, quantitative and qualitative data between April and May, 2016. The data came from households by means of face to face interviews using a structured questionnaire. Households were selected by means of a random walk method. The questionnaire was administered via an electronic platform by trained citizen groups in all the districts.

Data was analysed using the Statistical Package for Social Sciences (SPSS) software. SPSS was used to generate descriptive statistics and tested for statistical significance using the Chi-Square test. Statistical tests of significance were performed on the data at 0.05 (5%) level of significance. The results are presented by means of info-graphics to make them easily comprehensible, reader-friendly and appealing to a larger audience.

4.0 RESULTS

4.1 Pru District

The Pru District shares boundaries with seven (7) other districts, namely East Gonja to the North (Northern Region), Sene East and West to the East, Nkoranza and Atebubu-Amantin to the South and Kintampo-North and South to the West, all in the Brong Ahafo Region. The population of the District is 129,248 and the sample size for this district is 388.

4.1.1 Demographic Characteristics of Sample: Sex, Age, Settlement Type, Educational Level, Literacy and Employment.

Figure 4.1.1: Demographic Characteristics of Sample
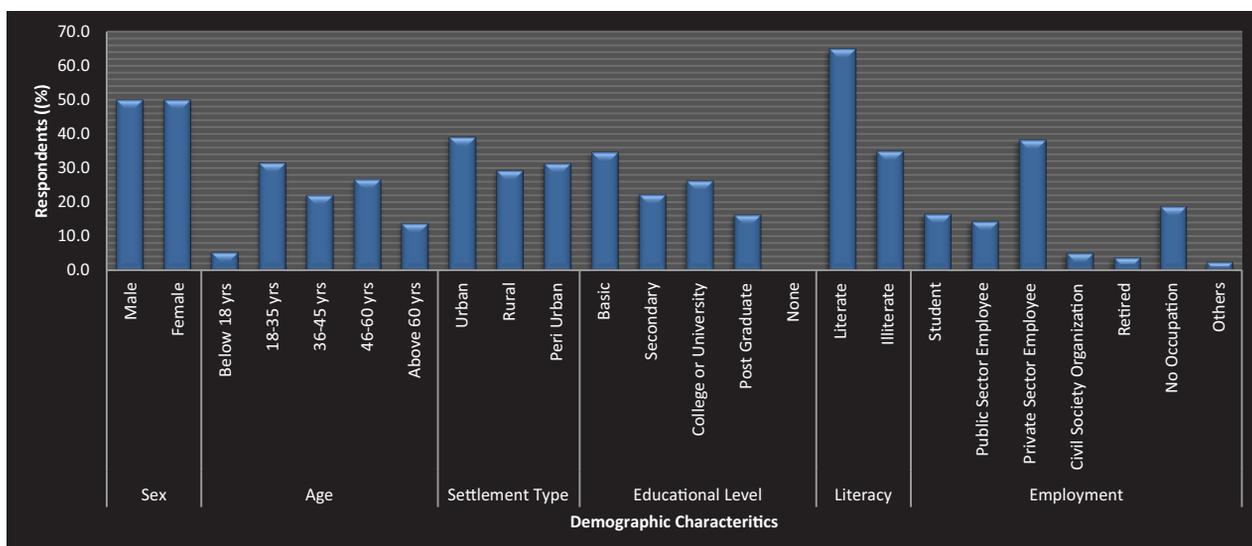
Source: Field survey, 2016

Figure 4.1.1 summarizes the demographic characteristics of all respondents. The gender composition of respondents is even. In terms of age, the sample is diverse with representation from all age groups above 18 years. Similarly, the distribution of settlement types is diverse, almost equally across urban, peri-urban and rural settlements. All respondents have attained some form of formal education and are largely private sector employees. See above for details.

4.1.2 Knowledge on Forms of Corruption

Figure 4.1.2: Citizens Knowledge on Forms of Corruption
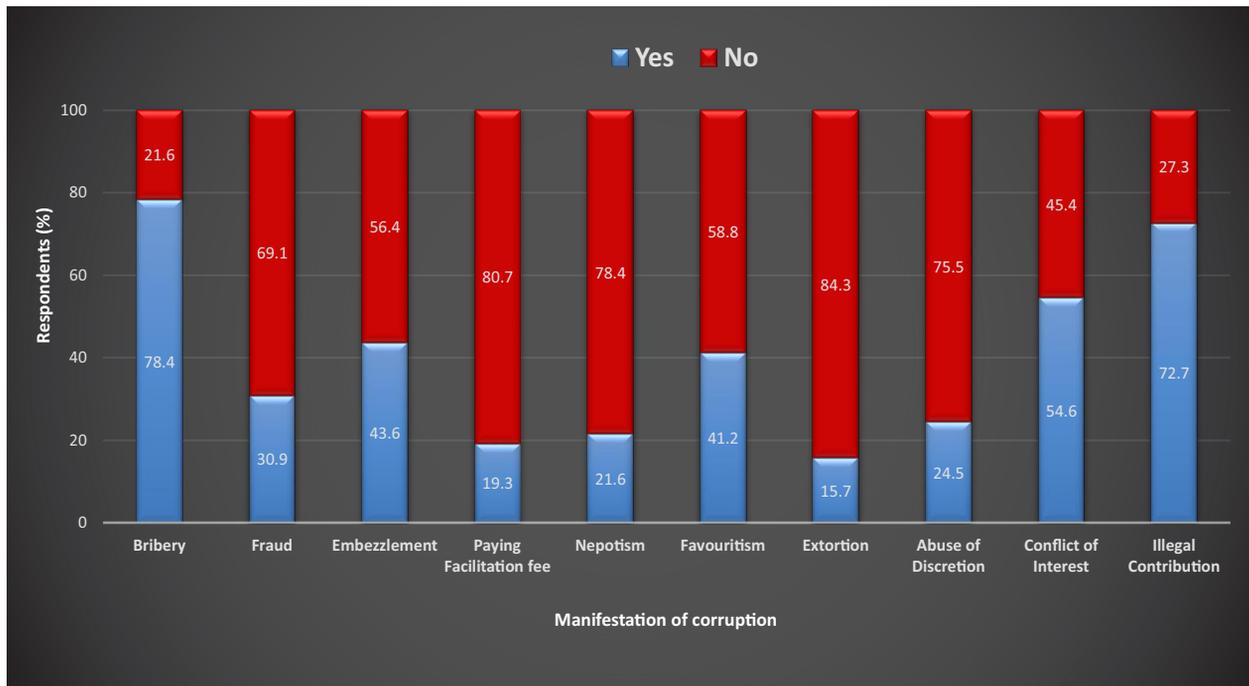
Source: Field survey, 2016

Figure 4.1.2 provides an analysis of respondents knowledge on the manifestation of acts of corruption in their daily lives. Interesting 1 in every 5 respondents did not think bribery constituted an act of corruption. However, it is alarming to note that majority of respondents did not believe that nepotism, payment of facilitation fees, embezzlement, fraud, extortion, among others could be classified as acts of corruption. See the above for details.

4.1.3 Change in the level of corruption in the past 12 months

Figure 4.1.3: Citizens' Assessment of Change in the Level of Corruption
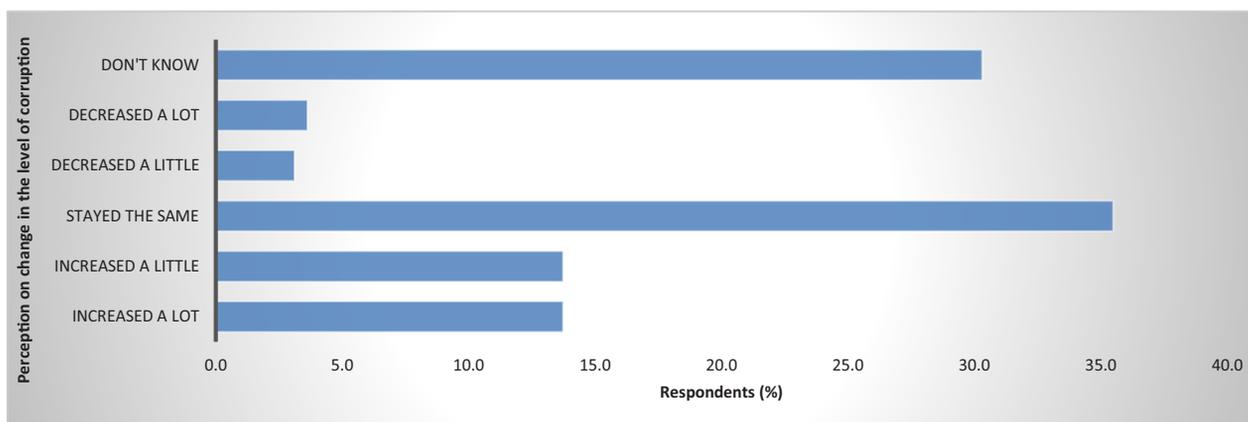
Source: Field survey, 2016

In Pru, a little over two-third of the respondents felt that corruption in the district had remained the same (figure 41.1.3). Three out of ten did not know the status of corruption as to whether it had increased or not, while about 5% believed the canker had decreased. See the figure above for details.

4.1.4 Effort made by the Assembly and District level Governance institutions to Fight Corruption in the District
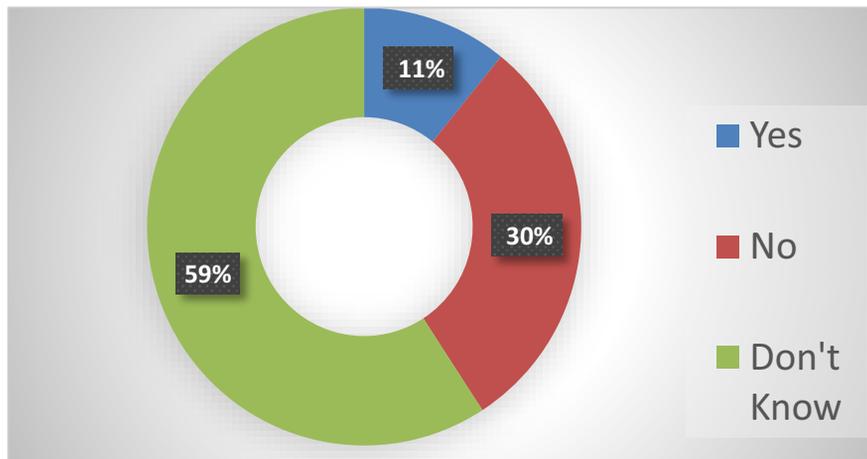
Figure 4.1.4: Citizens' Assessment of Effort of District Assembly and District Level Governance Institutions to Fight Corruption

Source: Field survey, 2016

Emerging from the figure above is a worrying revelation only one-tenth of respondents confirmed knowledge of efforts being made to curb corruption in their district.

4.1.5 Most Trusted Institution to Fight Corruption

Figure 4.1.5: Citizens' Confidence in Institutions to Fight Corruption
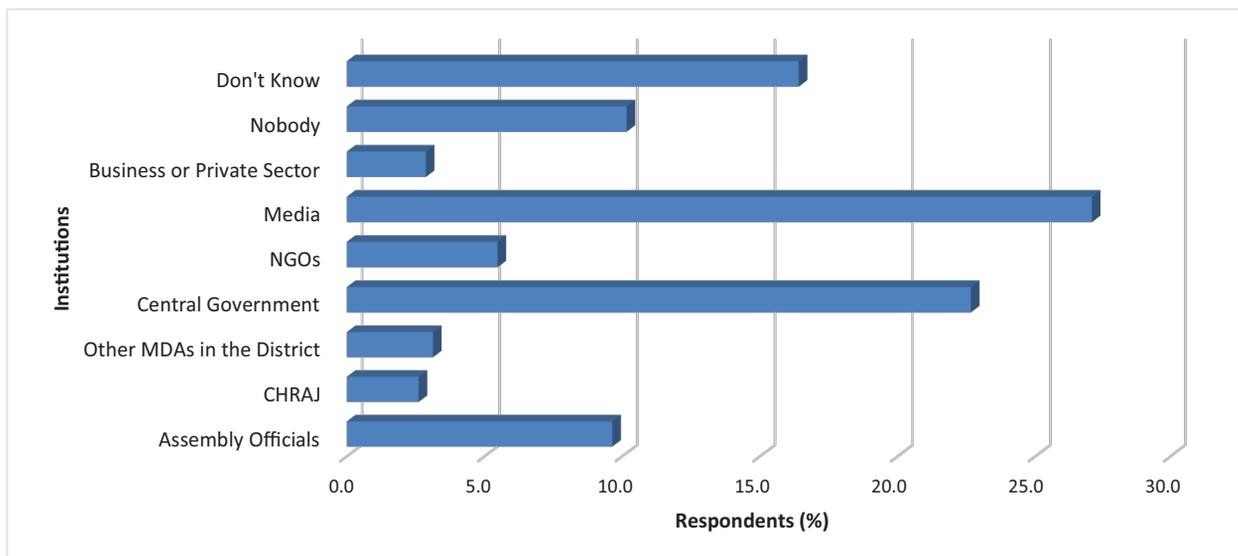
Source: GII Consortium, 2016NB: Figures are presented in percentages

Strikingly, the Commission for Human Rights and Administrative Justice (CHRAJ), which is the institution mandated to fight against corruption in Ghana is the least trusted in Pru. One-tenth of respondents simply did not believe that any one could curb corruption. On the other hand, the media is the first institution which respondents trusted to fight corruption. See the above for details.

4.1.6 Citizens' Perception of Corruption in Institutions

Figure 4.1.6 below captures the survey results on citizens' perception on corruption. Interestingly there is no Passport Office sited within the districts yet over 95% rated it as the most corrupt. This is followed by the Police Service, Education sector and the Ghana Revenue Authority. The figure below provides the details.
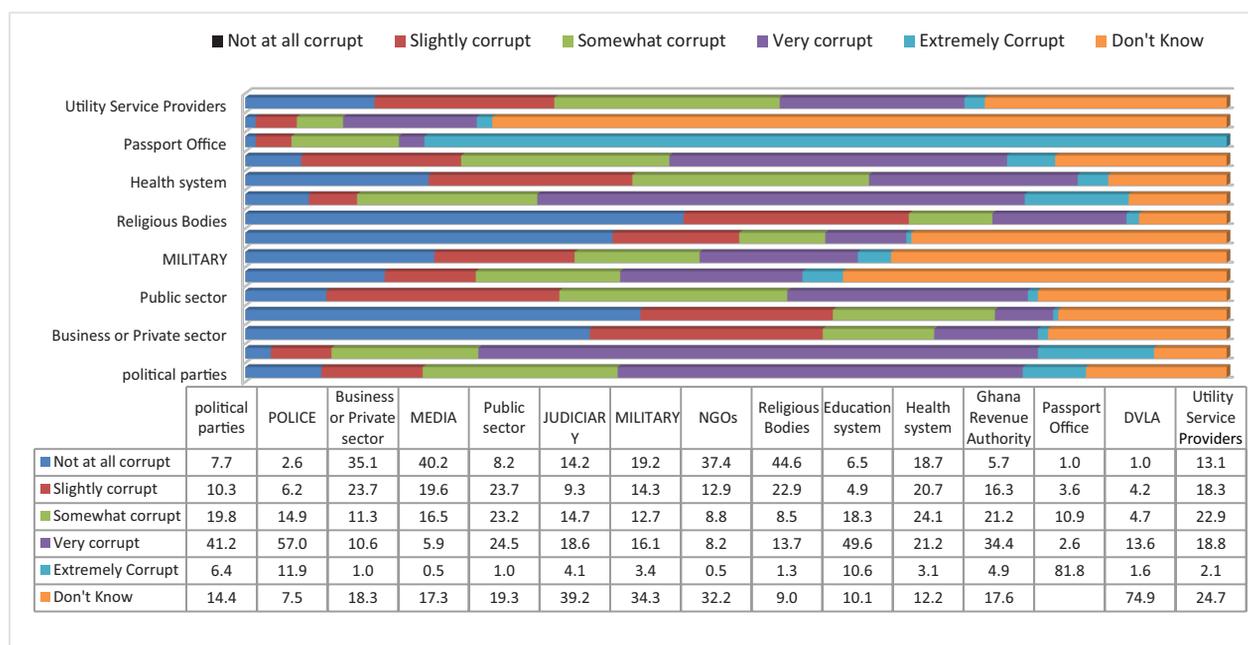
Figure 4.1.6: Citizens Perception of Corruption in Institutions

	political parties	POLICE	Business or Private sector	MEDIA	Public sector	JUDICIARY	MILITARY	NGOs	Religious Bodies	Education system	Health system	Ghana Revenue Authority	Passport Office	DVLA	Utility Service Providers
Not at all corrupt	7.7	2.6	35.1	40.2	8.2	14.2	19.2	37.4	44.6	6.5	18.7	5.7	1.0	1.0	13.1
Slightly corrupt	10.3	6.2	23.7	19.6	23.7	9.3	14.3	12.9	22.9	4.9	20.7	16.3	3.6	4.2	18.3
Somewhat corrupt	19.8	14.9	11.3	16.5	23.2	14.7	12.7	8.8	8.5	18.3	24.1	21.2	10.9	4.7	22.9
Very corrupt	41.2	57.0	10.6	5.9	24.5	18.6	16.1	8.2	13.7	49.6	21.2	34.4	2.6	13.6	18.8
Extremely Corrupt	6.4	11.9	1.0	0.5	1.0	4.1	3.4	0.5	1.3	10.6	3.1	4.9	81.8	1.6	2.1
Don't Know	14.4	7.5	18.3	17.3	19.3	39.2	34.3	32.2	9.0	10.1	12.2	17.6		74.9	24.7

Source: Field survey, 2016

4.1.7 Citizens' Actual Experience with Corruption: Payment of Bribe

Figure 4.1.7: Percentage of citizens who made contact with selected institutions and paid a bribe
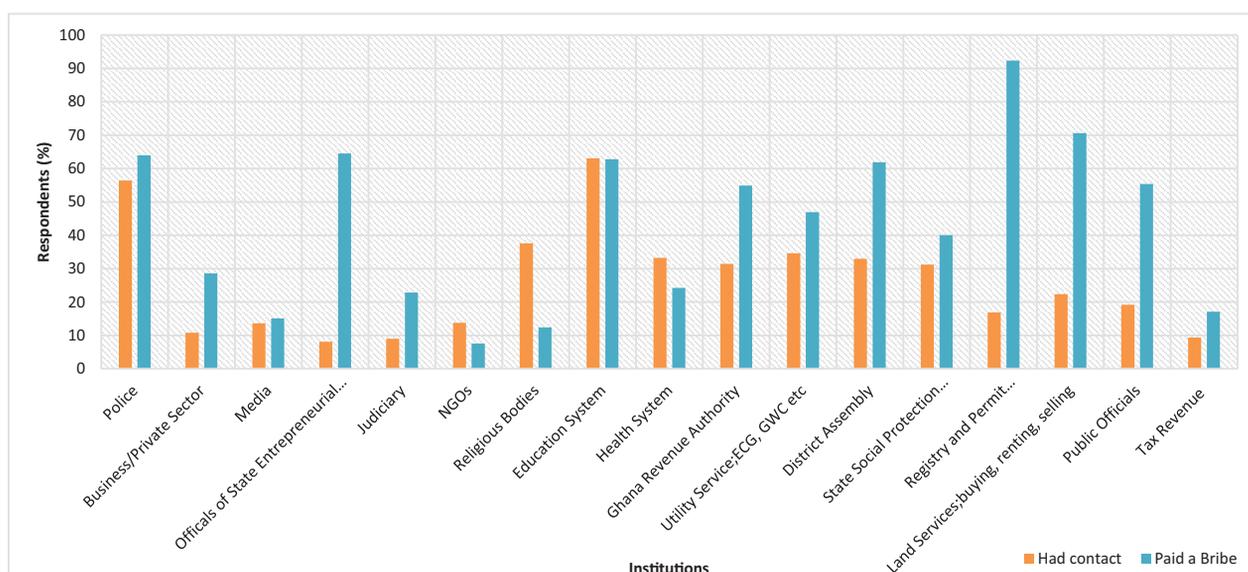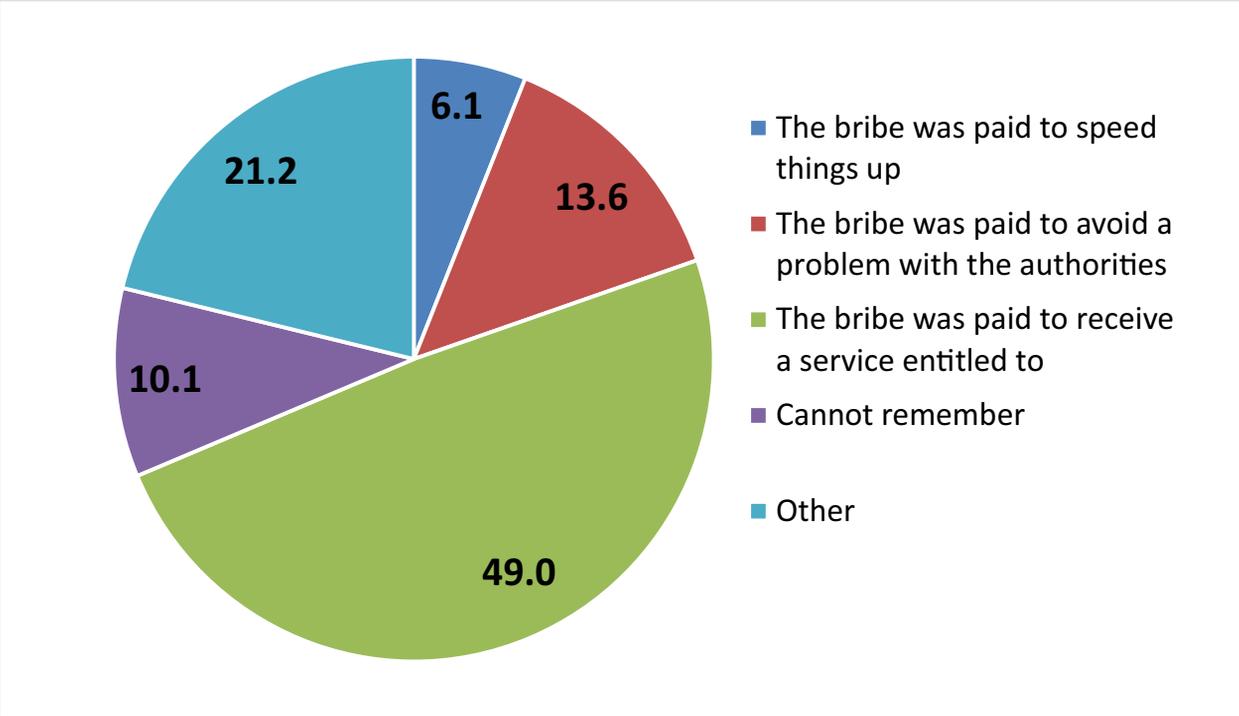

Source: Field survey, 2016

Figure 4.1.7 shows the results of citizen's contact with various district institutions and the number of them who paid bribes. The blue colour indicates the percentage of people who have had contact with the respective institution in the past 12 months. The red colour captures the percentage of those who had contact and paid bribes. Services dealing with registry and permit as well as birth and marriage certificates score highest with 92% of those who made contact paying bribe. This is followed by service associated with land as 71% of citizens who had contact reported paying bribe. One-third of respondents had contact with Assembly Officials out of which 62% reported paying bribes. See the figure above for details.

4.1.8 Reasons for Paying Bribe

Figure 4.1.8: Reasons for Paying Bribe (%)

Pie chart legend:
- The bribe was paid to speed things up
- The bribe was paid to avoid a problem with the authorities
- The bribe was paid to receive a service entitled to
- Cannot remember
- Other
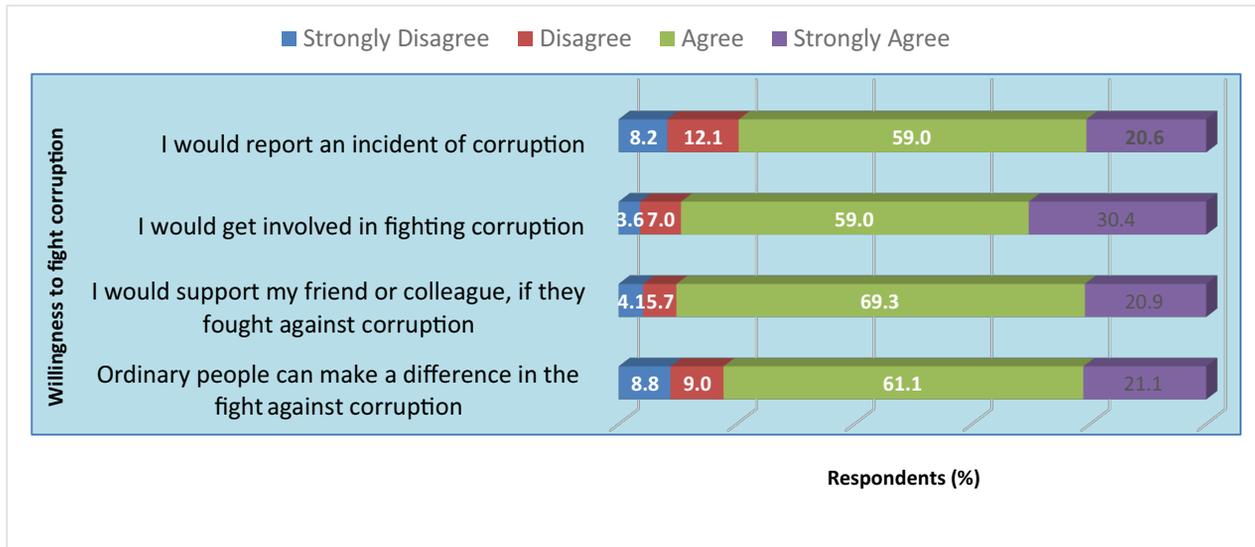
Values: 6.1, 13.6, 49.0, 10.1, 21.2

Source: Field survey, 2016

Figure 4.1.8 probes the reasons why respondents paid bribes. Nearly half of respondents paid bribes in order to receive services for which ordinarily they were entitled to.

4.1.9 Citizens' Willingness to Fight Corruption

Figure 4.1.9: Citizens' Willingness to Fight Corruption

Source: GII Consortium, 2016NB: Figures are expressed in percentages (%)

Despite respondents' relatively low awareness of the roles of anti-corruption institutions and the forms of manifestations of corruption, majority are ready and willing to fight corruption, as figure 4.1.9 above suggests. They would report incidence of corruption, get involved in fighting corruption, support a colleague or friend in fighting corruption and believed that ordinary people could make a difference in fighting corruption.