



GENDER AND CORRUPTION: A TOOLKIT TO ADDRESS THE 'ADD WOMEN AND STIR' MYTH

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These factors are embedded within an overarching socio-economic, cultural and political context which must be taken into account

Apply a rights-based approach

- Encourage women to participate in public life and services as a fair system strategy



"It is very dangerous to claim that simply the physical presence of women in decision making will result in desirable outcomes without addressing many, many other things, such as the nature of the state, the prevailing culture of decision making, the dominant political parties...It's a dangerous sort of correlation to make because if women don't deliver lower corruption or if they deliver worse decision making then the instrumental argument for putting them in power is disproven, and that's actually extremely dangerous."

- Anne-Marie Goetz, former Chief Advisor for the Governance, Peace and Security department at UN Women, interview April 2016



Anticorruption policies ought to take into account a gendered perspective by using a rights-based approach to protect the gender equality agenda and avoid instrumentalisation of women in public life.



Researchers ought to adopt a multidisciplinary approach to their research to understand not only the context and culture in which they are conducting their studies, but also the different social classes and identities that exist within the parameter of their studies.

Account for a comprehensive understanding of the term gender

- Include a more nuanced concept of "gender" rather than "sex"
- Include an intersectional analysis of gender when producing research on gender and corruption



A gendered perspective lends support to the argument that gender, i.e., the behaviour or traits associated with the respective sexes are not intrinsic to them, but are instead a performance of the roles into which they have been socialized (de Beauvoir 1972; Millet 1971; Butler 1990).



Researchers ought to consider the dependent and intersecting natures of gender and different social dimensions, such as class, racial classification, sexuality and identity, among others in order to depict significant disparities in people's attitudes towards corruption and more importantly corruption's differentiated impact on people.

Focus on examining the impact of corruption on gender

- Improve research on the differentiated impact of corruption on women
- Focus research on the ways to reduce corruption's impact on women



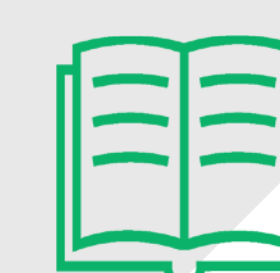
Corruption impacts individuals differently. As women are more reliant on public services than men and make up the majority of the world's poor, they suffer disproportionately when corruption reduces the amount of resources available and the quality of public service delivery (Hossain, Musembi, and Hughes, 2010).



Research ought to analyse the differentiated effects of corruption on women. Developing sex disaggregated data is also necessary in order to have concrete information about how corruption affects women and to enable informed policy-making.

Employ a more inclusive notion of corruption

- Create equitable indices to measure corruption
- Adopt gender-responsive anti-corruption policies



Transparency International's Corruption Perception Index and Political Risk Services' International Country Risk Guide only survey the experiences and perceptions of a small group of experts, business people and public officers. Provost (2013) warns against relying on such a small sample as it risks limiting the scope of the results and leads to conclusions that only hold true for an unrepresentative group of society.



Indices measuring corruption ought to comprise not only business people and public officials but citizens from all economic and social classes, ensuring the participation of minorities as well as guaranteeing a balance among genders and between rural and urban areas. Furthermore, they must include the forms of corruption that most directly affect women in their daily lives, such as sextortion and petty corruption.



This toolkit builds upon a white paper "Mapping Controversies: Gender and Corruption," which used a science, technologies, and society approach. It draws on the findings and research of the white paper: literature and desk research of over 200 scientific and academic publications and interviews with seven experts in the fields of gender studies and corruption. This toolkit expands the initial research with a supplementary bibliography and a discussion using gender and feminist perspectives on the gendered impact of corruption along with providing illustrative examples of policies around the world based on flawed science linking gender and corruption.