



## *International Newsletter – September 2015*

### ***From the Trustees...***

Corruption and integrity continue to be centre-stage across the world, as ordinary people speak out in countries as diverse as Guatemala (the president was forced out) and Malaysia (massive demonstrations). It's good to report more good work in African countries (see below), but there's still a long way to go. Please think if you can help through prayer, supporting IGI or lobbying government.

For more information, please go to [www.igi-integrity.com](http://www.igi-integrity.com) , or join the discussion on our Facebook page.



### ***Corruption in Cameroon – Police and Judiciary on top!***

A recent report by FITCAM showed that the public see the police and judiciary as amongst the most corrupt institutions in South West Cameroon.

FITCAM's leadership in the fight for integrity in Cameroon was recognised again when National Anti-Corruption Commission (CONAC) tasked them with coordinating a survey among users of public services in the South West Region of Cameroon. The survey mapped the extent of corruption in various service providers and the impact of anti-corruption work in that region.

Questionnaires and interviews were completed by 700 users to identify perceptions of the most and least corrupt of the six areas, and the services most affected.

Almost invariably, the most corrupt service was police, with the second spot held variously by the judiciary or the taxation office. This is a sad reflection on the very agencies that should be in the forefront of eliminating corruption.

However, the most expensive sector for bribes was electricity, averaging 44,618 CFA (50 GBP, 76 USD), followed closely by health, education and water.

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## DR Congo – 2016 legislative elections

The coming cycle of elections is critical to the future of this troubled country. It is vital to democracy that for once a full cycle of elections can be held fairly and peacefully, with results accepted by all sides.

Local elections this year are to be followed by legislative and presidential elections in 2016, with November as the most likely date for the presidential ones.



DRC is a huge country, with many diverse tribes, including various Bantu groups and the remaining aboriginal pygmies. It has suffered decades of dictatorships, coups and civil war. The fragile peace of the last few years has often been violated.

In a country where there has been so much violence, involvement of more women is seen as bringing a different, and potentially less inflammatory, approach. IGI in DRC is meeting with potential women parliamentary candidates to encourage them to stand and discuss the challenges. The local IGI FIT in

Bukavu have also been in touch with the electoral commission in Kinshasa to arrange training of election observers. Independent observers are vital to establishing confidence in the results.

## UK – after the election

Thank you, all who prayed for the elections in UK! The Conservative Party, which was the senior partner in the coalition that ruled over the last five years, now has an absolute majority.



The government appears still committed to clamping down on money laundering, including overseas ownership of property. According to a recent report by Transparency International, [Exporting Corruption](#), UK, is one the four major exporting countries likely to take legal action against overseas bribery (20 of 41 signatories of the OECD Anti-Bribery Convention are not even bothering). But there is concern that some businesses in the UK are lobbying to soften the commitments of the Bribery Act (2010), on the basis that it is too restrictive for UK exports. Vigilance is needed.

## Kenya – is corruption getting worse?

With Mr Obama's recent visit to Kenya, and the release of the report on government finances for 2013/14 by the Kenyan Auditor-General Edward Ouko, it's a good time to highlight some of the statistics on corruption in the country.

- In 2014 Transparency International gave Kenya a rank of 145 (out of 175) on its Corruption Perception Index (CPI), where a score of 1 is least corrupt. So, Kenya continues to languish near the bottom of the world league.
- The auditor's report supports this perception: the 2012/13 audit found that only 12% of financial statements were 'clean', whereas the report for 2013/14 has found 26% of statements to be 'clean'. In monetary terms, the audit found Kshs 66.8bn (£411m, \$633m) to be 'unsupported'.
- The scale of corruption, and it's pervasiveness in Kenyan society can be seen in the statistics on bribery, presented by the CEO of TI Kenya, Samuel Kimeu, in 2013: the Ethics and Anti-Corruption Commission has an almost 0% success rate for prosecuting police officers accused of taking bribes. When surveyed, only 7% of Kenyans said they would report a bribe; 27% said they didn't think anything would be done about it.
- A recent report by the Kenyan Ethics and Anti-Corruption Agency observed: "In recent years, corruption and unethical behavior ... has gained root in Kenya".
- The Nairobi *Star* reported that "At least one in every three Kenyans bribed governments officials to access services in public institutions last year".

President Kenyatta needs to fulfill his promises taking office in 2013!

## Please pray...

- Leaders of FITs, risking their livelihoods (and more) to fight corruption
- Better support from individuals in UK
- UK and European countries to clamp down on overseas bribery
- Christians throughout Africa to reject corruption
- Planning for the IGI Annual Conference in December in Nairobi.