

**Assessing the Effect of Corruption on Economic Development in
Tanzania: A Case of Tabora Regional Headquarters**

BY

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Masters of Arts in Peace and Security Studies of the Institute of Accountancy
Arusha.

August, 2023

DECLARATION

I, Mwanaidi Kabaka, declare that this dissertation is my own original work and that it has not been presented and will not be presented to any university for similar or any other degree award.

Signature.....

Date.....

CERTIFICATION

I, the undersigned certify that I have read and hereby recommend for acceptance by Institute of Accountancy Arusha the dissertation entitled: **“Assessing the Effect of Corruption on Economic Development in Tanzania: A Case of Tabora Regional Headquarters”** in fulfilment of the requirements for the degree of Masters of Arts in Peace and Security Studies offered at the Institute of Accountancy Arusha.

.....

(Supervisor Signature)

(Dr. Elias Mbuti)

Date

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Dedication

To my God and beloved family - my husband Fredrick Wilton and children Abigail and Gabriela.

Your unwavering support and love made this study possible. Thank you!

Acknowledgement

I am deeply grateful to the Lord JESUS CHRIST for His steadfast love and guidance throughout this research journey, finding inspiration in the words of Proverbs 3:6, "In all your ways acknowledge Him, and He will make your paths straight." I extend my heartfelt thanks to my supervisor, Dr. Elias Mbuti, for his invaluable wisdom, encouragement, and support, without which this study would not have been possible. My husband, Fredrick Wilton, has been my rock, offering unwavering love, assistance, and support, for which I am immensely thankful. To our children, Abigail and Gabriela Fredrick, I express my gratitude for their understanding and love during the countless hours I devoted to this study. My family members' unwavering support and encouragement have been instrumental in its completion, for which I am truly appreciative. Special thanks go to Lilian Nguma for motivating me to undertake this master's course, as well as my friends Haji Mfaume and Godfrey Kwileje for their support throughout this journey.

LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

CPI	Corruption Perceptions Index
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
KMO	Kaiser Meyer Olkin
SPSS	Statistical Package for Social Science

ABSTRACT

This study aimed to assess the effect of corruption on economic development in Tanzania, A Case of Tabora Regional Headquarters. More specifically this study sought to examine the perception of corruption among key stakeholders; to identify the specific channels through which corruption affects economic development and; to establish strategies for combating corruption and promoting economic development in the Tabora region. The research employed a descriptive research design and utilized a mixed research approach. The sample size consisted of 167 respondents, comprising government officials and various stakeholders, selected through a combination of purposive and random sampling techniques. Primary data, were collected in this study. The data analysis involved both descriptive and inferential statistics using SPSS, as well as thematic analysis for the qualitative data. The study revealed that a corruption is observed as a common practice in public service delivery, hindering resource allocation and posing a substantial obstacle to economic development. Also, the study unveiled that corruption impacts economic development through inefficient resource allocation, procurement irregularities, embezzlement, bribery, and nepotism. Moreover, the study indicated that effective strategies to combat corruption and promote economic development include strengthening laws, enhancing transparency, investing in training, encouraging citizen participation, and fostering international cooperation. The study recommends prioritizing the establishment of well-resourced, independent anti-corruption bodies to effectively investigate and prosecute corruption, fostering integrity and accountability among officials and business leaders, thus promoting economic development. Additionally, future studies in various regions, both advanced and less advanced than Tabora, will provide a comprehensive understanding of corruption's impact on national economic development.

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CHAPTER ONE

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Introduction

Sustainable development is about promoting an integrated approach. It has goals in the areas of the economy, society, and the environment. Most people agree that corruption, in all its manifestations, is a barrier to both sustainable economic developments. This study seeks to assess the effect of corruption on economic development in Tanzania, a case of Tabora Regional Headquarters.

1.2 Background to the Study

According to Mnjoliti (2018) Corruption is a pervasive problem that affects countries worldwide and has significant implications for economic development. It undermines trust in public institutions, distorts market dynamics, hampers investments, diverts resources from productive uses, and exacerbates poverty and inequality (Iyada, 2018).

Globally, corruption deters both domestic and foreign investments by raising the cost of doing business and undermining fair competition (Svensson 2020). It distorts resource allocation by favoring corrupt practices over efficient decision-making, leading to misallocation of public funds and hindering development. For example, Ukraine has been struggling with systemic corruption for many years, which has hindered its economic development (World Economic Forum 2018). Corruption has permeated various sectors, including politics, public administration, and the judiciary. This has resulted in a lack of accountability, weak governance, and a business

environment that discourages investment and entrepreneurship. Also, Brazil has faced corruption challenges that have hampered its economic growth. The corruption problem has had a significant impact on Brazil's economy, leading to a loss of investor confidence, decreased foreign direct investment, and a decline in public trust (Transparency International 2022). Thus, corruption weakens governance and institutions by eroding the rule of law and fostering a culture of impunity (Sturge 2020). Additionally, corruption exacerbates poverty and inequality by diverting resources away from vulnerable populations who are most in need of public services and social support. It widens the gap between the rich and the poor, perpetuating a cycle of poverty and hindering inclusive economic growth (Ikubanje 2017).

In Africa, corruption is a pervasive issue in countries, with significant implications for economic development (World Bank 2019). For example, In Kenya, high levels of corruption, particularly in the public sector, have had a detrimental impact on the economy. The detrimental effects of corruption on Kenya's economy, including reduced public investment, decreased investor confidence, and a negative impact on development initiatives (Khan 2016). Also, South Africa has faced corruption challenges that have had a tangible impact on its economic development. The state capture scandal, involving the Gupta family's alleged influence over government decisions and appointments, exposed systemic corruption within state-owned enterprises. This scandal has contributed to economic decline, reduced investor confidence, and hindered efforts to address socioeconomic inequalities (IMF 2020). Moreover, Nigeria is known for its struggles with corruption, particularly in the public sector. The country has faced large-scale corruption scandals, such as the mismanagement of oil revenues and embezzlement by public officials. Corruption has had severe

consequences for Nigeria's economy, including the diversion of public funds away from critical sectors like healthcare and education, hampering development efforts (World Bank 2019).

Tanzania, like many countries in Africa, has faced significant challenges related to corruption and its impact on economic development. Corruption in Tanzania has been observed across various sectors, including government institutions, public procurement, and business transactions ((MF 2017). In recent years, Tanzania has taken steps to address corruption. The government has implemented anti-corruption policies, established specialized anti-corruption agencies, and ratified international conventions against corruption. Additionally, initiatives such as the National Anti-Corruption Strategy and the establishment of an Integrity Pledge have been introduced to strengthen anti-corruption efforts (Transparency International, 2022). However, challenges persist in effectively combating corruption and promoting economic development in Tanzania. Limited awareness, weak enforcement mechanisms, and the need for further institutional reforms are among the key areas that require attention. It is crucial to assess the specific dynamics of corruption in different regions within Tanzania, such as the Tabora region, to understand the local context and tailor interventions accordingly.

1.3 Research Problem

Corruption in Tanzania has permeated various sectors, including government institutions, public procurement, and business transactions, thereby hindering economic development. It distorts market dynamics, misallocates resources, and erodes public trust in institutions. The prevalence of corruption discourages domestic and foreign investments, impeding efforts to foster a favorable business environment and sustainable economic growth. Although the Tanzanian government has

made efforts to address corruption by establishing specialized anti-corruption agencies and ratifying international conventions, the problem persists across sectors.

Existing research on the effect of corruption has primarily focused on industrialized nations, with relatively few studies conducted in developing nations like Tanzania. Studies such as Lederman, Loayza, and Soares (2021) and Khagram (2019) have explored this subject using varying sampling techniques and research strategies. However, the specific effect of corruption on economic development in Tanzania remains largely unexplored. This research aimed to bridge the knowledge gap by assessing the impact of corruption on economic development in Tanzania, with a specific focus on the Tabora Regional Headquarters as a case study. By examining corruption's effect on economic development in Tanzania, this research provided valuable insights into the mechanisms through which corruption hampered growth and suggested strategies to address the issue effectively. By focusing on a specific region and considering its unique dynamics, this study contributed to a deeper understanding of the challenges faced by Tanzania and provided recommendations tailored to the local context.

1.4 Objectives of the Study

1.4.1 General Objective

The general objective of this study is to assess the effect of corruption on economic development in Tanzania, A Case of Tabora Regional Headquarters

1.4.2 Specific Objectives

More specifically this study sought to;

- i. To examine the perception of corruption among key stakeholders, including government officials, business leaders, and citizens, in the Tabora region.
- ii. To identify the specific channels through which corruption affects economic development in the Tabora region.
- iii. To establish strategies for combating corruption and promoting economic development in the Tabora region.

1.5 Research Questions

- i. What is the perception of corruption among key stakeholders, including government officials, business leaders, and citizens, in the Tabora region?
- ii. Through which specific channels does corruption affect economic development in the Tabora region?
- iii. What strategies can be established for combating corruption and promoting economic development in the Tabora region?

1.6 Scope of the Study

The scope of this study encompassed the Tabora region of Tanzania, with a specific focus on the Tabora Regional Headquarters. The study aimed to assess the effect of corruption on economic development within this particular geographic context. While corruption was a pervasive issue across Tanzania, narrowing the scope to the Tabora region allowed for a more focused examination of the local dynamics and challenges. The study involved key stakeholders, including government officials, business leaders, and citizens, within the Tabora region. Their perceptions of corruption, the specific channels through which corruption affected economic development, and strategies for

combating corruption were assessed through surveys, interviews, and data analysis. In terms of the time frame, the study primarily focused on the present and recent past, aiming to capture the then-current state of corruption and its impact on economic development in the Tabora region. However, historical trends and contextual factors were considered to provide a comprehensive understanding of the issue. The study primarily employed qualitative and quantitative research methods to gather data and analyze the relationship between corruption and economic development. The data collected were subjected to rigorous analysis and interpretation to derive meaningful insights and recommendations.

1.7 Limitation of the Study

The study was limited to employees working at Tabora Regional Headquarters, a public entity. As a result, not all respondents provided accurate answers to all questions, particularly concerning sensitive issues regarding the impact of corruption on economic development, where some might not have been prepared to disclose information for various reasons. Nevertheless, the respondents were assured of anonymity, and the submitted information was treated as confidential. To further reassure the participants, the researcher provided them with an introduction letter from the Institute of Accountancy Arusha, emphasizing that the research was solely conducted for academic purposes.

1.8 Significance of the Study

The topic is one of the vital aspects of the country's development. The study's findings will be useful to policymakers since they will aid in the formulation of corruption control strategies for the sake of sustainable and economic development in Tanzania.

The Tabora Regional Headquarters management will be enabled through this study to have an in-depth understanding and knowledge on the effect of corruption on Tanzania's economic development. The courses of action which will help them to improve corruption control strategies for the sake of economic development. The study is a reference for further research on the topic; the study will add to the field of academia in relation to effect of corruption on Tanzania's economic development. The findings of the study throw in further to the development of the framework and guidelines.

Researchers and academics should use the study's conclusions and suggestions as a starting point for additional research in this area. Last but not least, this study is intended to help the researcher partially meet the requirements for the Master of Arts in Peace and Security Studies degree from the Institute of Arusha Accountancy. Additionally, it gives the researcher the chance to discover and gather a wealth of information for the study.

1.9 Organization of the Study

This research dissertation comprises five chapters. Chapter one provides the background, problem statement, justification, and context of the study. Chapter two includes a literature review, conceptual definitions, analysis of theories, empirical comparisons, and identification of the research gap. The conceptual framework and theoretical framework of the study are also discussed. Chapter three outlines the research methodology, including sampling, data collection, and analysis methods. Chapter four entails data presentation, analysis and discussions, while chapter five provides the summary, conclusions and recommendations of the study. References and appendices cover the last part of the study.

CHAPTER TWO

LITERATURE REVIEW

2.1 Introduction

The second chapter of the research examine the literature that support the research themes. The ideas that are founded on the independent and dependent variables are fully presented in this chapter. The chapter also included a review of the relevant empirical literature, research gaps, and the study's conceptual framework.

2.2 Definition of Concepts

2.2.1 Corruption

According to Daudi (2021), corruption is a culture that is actively engaged in by the majority of people and is widely practiced throughout virtually all societal sectors. It is a global monster that has engulfed societal context and human cognition. In breach of societal legal and moral standards, it plans unwarranted profits on a select few people. Fabayo, Posu, and Obisanya (2020) contend that this makes it more difficult for the government to ensure the prosperity of all citizens since the necessary resources are concentrated in the hands of a tiny segment of society.

2.2.2 Channels of Corruption

According to Mbaku (2019) channels of corruption refer to the specific avenues or mechanisms through which corruption occurs. These may include public procurement processes, business transactions, resource allocation, political appointments, or other forms of decision-making that are susceptible to bribery, embezzlement, or illicit practices.

2.2.3 Economic Development

Economic development, according to Sturge (2020), is the sustained and inclusive growth of an economy, accompanied by improvements in living standards, reduction in poverty, and increased opportunities for employment and wealth creation. It involves enhancing productivity, diversifying economic activities, promoting investment, and improving infrastructure and human capital (Mankiw 2016). This definition is suitable for the study since it offers a quantitative indicator of economic expansion for which statistics are available from the Tanzanian National Bureau of Statistics.

2.3 Theoretical Literature Review

2.3.1 Principal-Agent Theory

The Principal-Agent theory was developed by Jean-Jacques Laffont and Jean Tirole, in 1993 (Laffont & Tirole 1993). This theory provides a framework for understanding the dynamics of corruption by focusing on the relationship between principals and agents. In the context of corruption, the principals are individuals or groups who delegate power and authority to agents to act on their behalf. For example, citizens entrust power to government officials to serve their interests, while shareholders delegate power to corporate executives to manage their investments. However, the Principal-Agent theory recognizes that there is an inherent agency problem in this relationship. Agents may have their own self-interests and incentives that may deviate from the best interests of the principals (Bairoch 2017). This creates an opportunity for corruption to arise. Corruption occurs when agents exploit their entrusted power for personal gain, such as accepting bribes, embezzling funds, or engaging in favoritism, rather than acting in the best interests of the principals (Lanza 2012). In the case of the Tabora region, the researcher employed the Principal-

Agent theory to analyze how agency problems contribute to corruption and its impact on economic development. For instance, government officials may prioritize personal enrichment over implementing policies that promote economic growth and development in the region. Similarly, corporate executives may engage in corrupt practices, such as bribery or collusion, to gain unfair advantages in business transactions, thereby distorting market dynamics and hindering economic progress (Talbot 2013). By examining the agency problems between principals (citizens or shareholders) and agents (government officials or corporate executives) in the Tabora region, the study shed light on how corruption undermines the interests of principals and hampers economic development. It can explore the motivations, mechanisms, and consequences of corruption arising from agency problems, and identify strategies to align the interests of agents with the principals' best interests. This understanding can inform policy recommendations and interventions to mitigate agency problems, reduce corruption, and promote sustainable economic development in the Tabora region.

2.3.2 Rent-Seeking theory

The Rent-Seeking theory was developed by Arthur C. Pigou in 1920 (Tullock 1967). This theory provides a framework for understanding how corruption emerges as individuals or groups seek to capture economic rents or benefits through their influence or connections. Economic rents refer to excess profits or gains that can be obtained by manipulating the market or leveraging personal advantages. Corruption, in this context, involves using illicit means to secure these rents, such as bribery, favoritism, or nepotism (Bose 2017). According to Harm (2018), corruption distorts market mechanisms by creating an uneven playing field where individuals or groups with connections or power can gain unfair advantages over others. This undermines fair competition, leading to

inefficiencies in resource allocation and hindering economic development. When individuals or entities engage in rent-seeking behavior, they divert resources, including financial and human capital, from productive activities to non-productive activities focused on securing economic rents through corrupt means. This diversion of resources can result in a misallocation of resources, reduced productivity, and overall economic inefficiency (Angeletos 2019). In the case of the Tabora region, the Rent-Seeking theory will provide insights into the specific channels through which corruption affects economic development. For example, corrupt practices in public procurement processes can lead to inflated costs, lower quality goods or services, and exclusion of more capable and competitive suppliers. This distorts the allocation of public resources and reduces the effectiveness of public investments. Similarly, corruption in business transactions can hinder fair competition, discourage investment, and deter economic development in the private sector. By analyzing rent-seeking behavior within the Tabora region, the study will identify the specific mechanisms through which corruption affects economic development. This study will examine how corruption impacts market dynamics, resource allocation, investment flows, and the overall business environment. This understanding will help to develop targeted interventions and policy measures to curb rent-seeking behavior, promote transparency, enhance competition, and foster a favorable environment for economic development in the Tabora region.

2.4 Empirical Literature Review

2.4.1 Perception of Corruption Among Key Stakeholders

Aidt, Dutta, and Sena (2018) conducted a study that examined the perception of corruption among key stakeholders in different countries and analyzed its impact on economic growth. Their research

provided empirical evidence on how corruption affects stakeholders' perceptions and their willingness to engage in economic activities. Although their study provides valuable insights, this research aims to specifically examine the effect of corruption on economic growth in Tabora Regional Headquarters, focusing on the local context.

Treisman (2020) conducted a comprehensive exploration of the causes of corruption across different countries. The study examined the perceptions of corruption held by key stakeholders and analyzed various factors contributing to the prevalence of corruption, including political institutions, economic factors, and social norms. The study found that prevalence of corrupt practices among public officials and administrators poses significant challenges to effective governance, fair resource allocation, and equitable service delivery. While Treisman's study provides a broader understanding of corruption, this research focuses on examining the effect of corruption on economic growth in Tabora Regional Headquarters, providing insights into the local dynamics and context-specific factors.

Husted and de Sousa-Filho (2022) conducted research exploring the relationship between corruption and the composition of government expenditure. Their study examined the perceptions of corruption held by different stakeholders and analyzed how corruption influences government spending patterns, potentially impacting key sectors and services. The study revealed that corruption tends to divert funds away from essential sectors and services, compromising the allocation of resources for public welfare. While their research sheds light on the effects of corruption on government expenditure, this study aims to specifically examine the effect of corruption on economic growth in Tabora Regional Headquarters, providing a focused analysis on the economic development implications of corruption in the region.

Lambsdorff (2017) conducted a critical examination of the measurement of corruption, particularly using subjective perceptions. The research emphasized the crucial role of understanding the perceptions of corruption held by key stakeholders, recognizing that these perceptions can shape attitudes, behaviors, and public trust. One of the most critical findings of the study was the stark revelation that corruption weakens the credibility of public sectors. By acknowledging the importance of perception-based measures, this study aims to explore the effect of corruption on economic growth in Tabora Regional Headquarters, taking into account the perceptions of corruption among relevant stakeholders. This approach allows for a comprehensive understanding of how corruption is perceived and its potential implications for economic development in the specific context of Tabora Regional Headquarters.

2.4.2 Channels Through Which Corruption Affects Economic Development

Mauro (2020) conducted a comprehensive analysis of the channels through which corruption affects economic development. The study found that corruption hinders investment, distorts market mechanisms, and impedes resource allocation, all of which have implications for economic development. Building upon Mauro's research, this study aims to specifically examine the effect of corruption on economic growth in Tabora Regional Headquarters, providing insights into the specific channels through which corruption impacts the region's economic development.

Schulze (2018) delved into the specific channels through which corruption influences economic development. The study revealed that corruption lead into reduced investment, lower productivity, and inefficient resource allocation, ultimately hindering economic development. While Schulze's research highlights general channels of corruption's impact, this study seeks to examine the effect

of corruption on economic growth in the unique context of Tabora Regional Headquarters, allowing for a localized understanding of the specific channels through which corruption affects economic development in the region.

Amin and Djankov (2019) focused on the impact of corruption on economic development in the context of natural resource-rich countries. Their study empirically examined how corruption influences resource allocation, public spending, and overall economic outcomes. Findings showed that corruption impede economic development in economies reliant on natural resources. In line with their research, this study aims to examine the effect of corruption on economic growth in Tabora Regional Headquarters, shedding light on the specific channels through which corruption affects the region's economic development in the presence of natural resources or other relevant factors.

Mbaku (2019) asserts that the widespread corruption in Sub-Saharan Africa is a result of institutional weakness. Since that Africa is made up of impoverished nations, there aren't many strong institutions that can control corruption through oversight and sensible laws. Thus, systemic corruption damages the country's economy. The deterioration of institutions and disregard for the rule of law are widespread throughout Africa, which has an effect on the battle against corruption. Several direct or indirect variables can contribute to corruption. The immediate causes include challenges with legislation and regulation, taxation, the acquisition and use of resources, and the provision of public services. On the other hand, indirect factors include elements like transparency, standards, and accountability, as well as institutions that fight corruption. Two other factors that commonly lead to widespread corruption in Africa are low wages and poverty. Therefore, this study seeks to examine the effect of corruption on economic growth in Tabora Regional Headquarters.

Svensson (2020) indicated misappropriation and theft of funds designated for public activities as two of the worst types of corruption. The study asserts that anytime leaders in executive positions of government, often presidents and political elites, start to abuse their power in order to carry out economic plans, vice would win. The author claims that one of the most obvious forms of corruption in the current day is enormous corruption.

According to Jain (2020), because the bulk of the population considers political elites as their "social guardians," they should be able to make decisions and work for the common welfare of the people with motives that are totally focused on the populace and not their own. Fayemi (2019) contends that the public interest should always take precedence over the politician's desire to hold onto power, even though political elites must strike a balance between the two. However, this study seeks to examine the effect of corruption on economic growth in Tabora Regional Headquarters.

Jain (2018) asserts that most cultures experience bureaucratic corruption as a different type of corruption that exists around the world. The most basic kind of corruption, according to Jain, takes place when bureaucrats or members of the political establishment demand money or other things in exchange for providing public services or completing particular tasks on time. The public has a right to anticipate this kind of treatment. Such corruption is therefore seen as dishonest. These actions are seen in how the bureaucrat interacts with members of the public, powerful political figures, or superiors. According to Jain (2018), a person would be able to access a service that was previously unavailable after paying the bribe. Therefore, this study seeks to examine the effect of corruption on economic growth in Tabora Regional Headquarters.

2.4.3 Strategies for Combating Corruption and Promoting Economic Development

Rose-Ackerman (2020) conducted an extensive exploration of strategies for combating corruption and their implications for economic development. The study analyzed the causes and consequences of corruption and offered evidence-based recommendations for anti-corruption reforms, emphasizing the importance of strengthening legal frameworks, promoting transparency, and enhancing accountability mechanisms. Drawing inspiration from this research, the current study seeks to examine the effect of corruption on economic growth in Tabora Regional Headquarters, taking into account the potential strategies for combating corruption and their impact on the region's economic development.

Hunt (2017) focused on strategies for combating corruption specifically in the healthcare sector. The study examined the effectiveness of international bodied interventions aimed at reducing bribery and improving service delivery in Peru and Uganda. Through empirical analysis, the research provided valuable insights into the potential strategies for addressing corruption in specific sectors and their impact on economic development. In alignment with this research, the current study aims to examine the effect of corruption on economic growth in Tabora Regional Headquarters, with a particular focus on exploring strategies for combating corruption and their implications for the region's economic development.

Banerjee and Duflo (2021) conducted a comprehensive examination of the relationship between corruption and economic development. Their study assessed the effectiveness of various anti-corruption strategies, including legal reforms, institutional changes, and social norms, in promoting economic development. By providing an overview of empirical evidence on the impact of corruption

on different development outcomes, the research shed light on the potential strategies for reducing corruption and fostering economic growth. Although the current study focuses on examining the effect of corruption on economic growth in Tanzania, specifically in Tabora Regional Headquarters, it draws inspiration from Banerjee and Duflo's research to inform the exploration of strategies for combating corruption and promoting economic development in the region.

Mungiu-Pippidi (2019) conducted a comprehensive exploration of the theoretical and empirical foundations of the training and education and good governance agenda, focusing on its role in combating corruption and promoting economic development. The study critically analyzed the effectiveness of various governance indicators and emphasized the significance of context-specific and theory-driven approaches in designing and implementing anti-corruption strategies. While the current study aims to examine the effect of corruption on economic growth in Tanzania, specifically in Tabora Regional Headquarters, it draws insights from Mungiu-Pippidi's research to inform the understanding of the good governance agenda and its implications for combating corruption and fostering economic development.

Olken (2021) conducted a study that examined the impact of monitoring and public disclosure in reducing corruption. The research utilized a field experiment conducted in Indonesia to provide empirical evidence on the effectiveness of anti-corruption strategies such as social audits and community monitoring in curbing corrupt practices and improving economic development outcomes. Although the current study focuses on examining the effect of corruption on economic growth in Tanzania, specifically in Tabora Regional Headquarters, it draws inspiration from Olken's research to inform the exploration of strategies for combating corruption and promoting economic development, particularly those related to monitoring and public disclosure mechanisms.

2.5 Research Gap

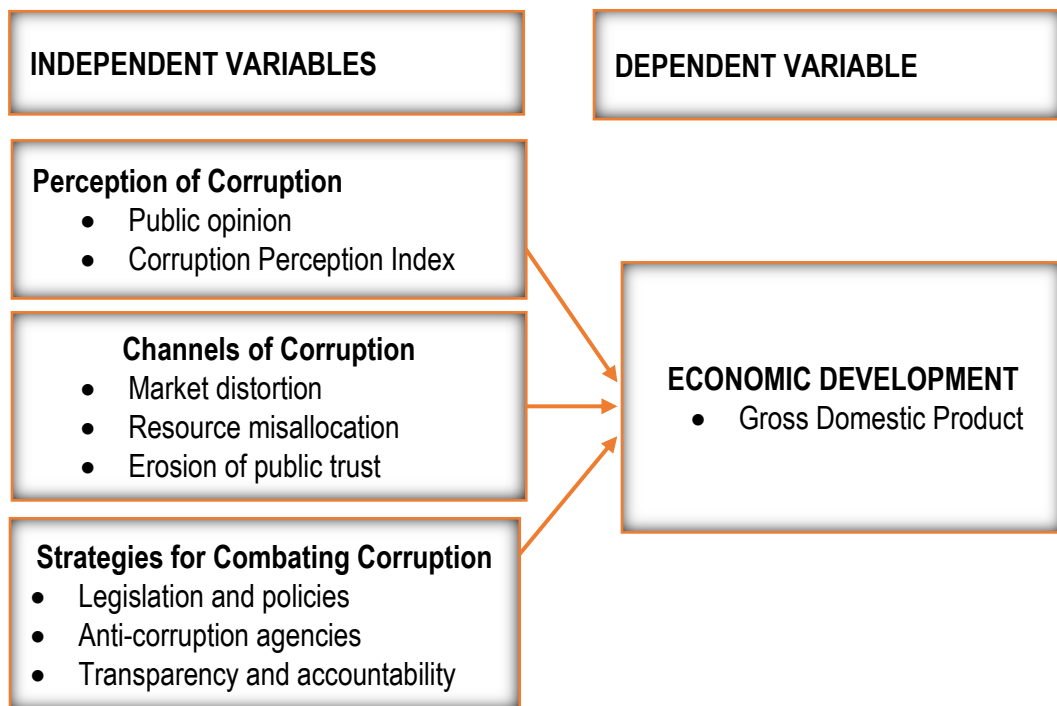
The existing research on the effect of corruption on economic development in Tanzania, particularly in the context of the Tabora region, has notable gaps that this study aims to address. Firstly, there is a limited focus on developing nations, with most studies primarily concentrating on industrialized countries, leaving a gap in understanding corruption dynamics in a developing country like Tanzania (Lederman, Loayza, & Soare, 2021; Khagram 2019). Secondly, there is a lack of localized studies specifically investigating corruption at the regional level, necessitating research that examines the unique context of the Tabora region (Mungiu-Pippidi 2019). Thirdly, there is a need for more empirical studies that assess the perception of corruption among key stakeholders and evaluate the effectiveness of strategies employed to combat corruption (Svensson 2020; Lambsdorff 2022). Lastly, there is an incomplete understanding of the channels through which corruption affects economic development in Tanzania, warranting further exploration of how corruption distorts market dynamics, misallocates resources, and erodes public trust in institutions (Mauro, 2020; Amin & Djankov, 2019). By addressing these gaps, this study aims to contribute valuable insights to the literature on corruption and its effect on economic development, particularly in Tabora - Tanzania.

2.6 Conceptual Framework

According to Mertens and Ginsberg (2019), the conceptual framework acts as a roadmap and a solid foundation for research, acting as an integrated ecosystem that enables researchers to purposefully bring all elements of a study together. This is done through articulating their relationships, conflicts, overlaps, tensions, and the factors that shape a research environment and the study of phenomena in that setting. The conceptual framework for this investigation is shown in

Figure 2.1. The independent variables of this study are perception of corruption, channels of corruption and strategies for combating corruption. The dependent variable is economic development.

Figure 2.1: Conceptual Framework of the Effect of Corruption on Economic Development in Tanzania



Source: Researcher (2023).

2.6.1 Conceptualization of Variables

Perception of Corruption refers to the subjective assessment and understanding of corruption among key stakeholders, including government officials, business leaders, and citizens. It captures their beliefs, attitudes, and opinions regarding the prevalence and impact of corruption. Also, channels of Corruption represent the specific mechanisms through which corruption affects

economic development. It includes factors such as market distortion, resource misallocation, erosion of public trust, reduced investment, and inefficient public service delivery.

Strategies for Combating Corruption encompasses the various approaches, policies, and measures employed to address and reduce corruption. It involves anti-corruption strategies, institutional reforms, transparency and accountability mechanisms, legal frameworks, and international cooperation.

Economic Development refers to the overall progress and improvement in the economic well-being of the Tabora region. It includes indicators such as GDP growth, investment levels, employment rates, poverty reduction, and human development outcomes.

CHAPTER THREE

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

3.1 Introduction

A research methodology is a systematic approach to tackling a research topic. It may be characterized as the study of how scientific research is carried out. The several steps a researcher frequently takes to investigate his research question and the justifications for each step (Cooper and Schindler 2018). The study strategy, research design, sample design, as well as the tools the researcher will use for data analysis and presentation, are all fully described in this chapter.

3.2 Research Design

In this study, a descriptive research design was used to collect and analyze data from respondents. According to Cooper and Schindler (2018), the descriptive research approach is well-suited for identifying and assessing the causal links between variables. This approach enables the researcher to gather comprehensive data about the population being studied and to describe the problem being investigated in detail. Furthermore, the descriptive research design is ideal for this study because it minimizes respondent interference and enables accurate tracking of measurements. By using this design, the researcher draws conclusions about the variables being studied without any bias or distortion caused by respondents. The descriptive research design also allows the researcher to use various data collection methods such as surveys, interviews, and document analysis, which can provide a wealth of information and insights into the research problem (Kale and Kale, 2020). This helped to ensure that the research findings are reliable and valid, and that the study's objectives are met.

Therefore, the descriptive research design was an appropriate method for this study as it allows for a thorough investigation of the variables being studied, and the use of multiple data collection methods will provide rich and reliable data.

3.3 Area of the Study

This study was conducted at Tabora Regional Headquarters to examine the effect of corruption on Tanzania's economic growth. Tabora, like many other regions in Tanzania, has witnessed corruption practices, and it is important to examine the impact of corruption on economic growth in this region. Additionally, Tabora has a diverse economic structure, with agriculture, mining, and tourism being major sectors. This made it an ideal location to study the impact of corruption on economic growth, as the results can be applied to other regions with similar economic structures. Moreover, the Tabora Regional Headquarters is the administrative center for the region, and it is likely that corruption occurs within this institution. By examining the impact of corruption within this institution, this study provided insights into how corruption affects economic growth in other institutions and sectors of the economy. Therefore, conducting this study at Tabora Regional Headquarters was an appropriate choice that can help to fill the gap in the literature on the effect of corruption on economic growth in Tanzania.

3.4 Research Approach

Mertens and Ginsberg (2019) defines research approaches as "research strategies and processes that span the phases from general assumptions to particular techniques of data collection, analysis, and interpretation." The current research employed a mixed research approach, combining both quantitative and qualitative methods, to provide a comprehensive understanding of the effect of

corruption on economic development in the Tabora region. By integrating these two research methodologies, the study aimed to capture the strengths of each approach and address the limitations of relying on a single method. Quantitative research methods were utilized in this study to gather numerical data and analyze statistical relationships between variables. Surveys and questionnaires were administered to a sample of key stakeholders, such as government officials, business leaders, and citizens, to measure their perception of corruption and gather quantitative data on economic development indicators. Statistical analysis techniques, such as regression analysis, correlation analysis, and descriptive statistics, were employed to identify patterns, associations, and trends in the data. In addition, qualitative research methods, including interviews, focus group discussions, and document analysis, were used to obtain in-depth insights and understanding of the channels through which corruption affects economic development and strategies for combating corruption. Interviews with experts, stakeholders, and policymakers provided rich narratives and perspectives on the complex dynamics of corruption and its impact on economic development. Moreover, document analysis of relevant reports, policies, and case studies supplemented the qualitative data and provided contextual information.

3.5 Population, Sample Size, Sampling Techniques

3.5.1 Population

A population is a group of entities with shared qualities that pique a researcher's interest. The population of this study encompassed 941 individuals in the Tabora region who are directly or indirectly affected by corruption and economic development. This included 141 government officials from regional, district, and local institutions and 800 stakeholders who are business leaders

operating in different sectors, the general population residing in the region as well as civil society organizations. Tabora Regional Headquarters is the administrative center of the Tabora Region, responsible for overseeing the implementation of government policies and programs in the area. The employees of Tabora Regional Headquarters were involved in various sectors, including finance, planning, procurement, human resources, and information and communication technology. The population is therefore composed of 941 officials and staff members who had knowledge and experience in the workings of the regional government and can provide valuable insights into the effect of corruption on economic growth in the region.

3.5.2 Sample size

The sample is the number of subjects or observations that make up a research. The number of items included in a sample size is defined by Thompson (2018). He claims that when referring to a sample size, what is meant is a selection of people from the general population who are thought to be representative of the actual population for that particular research. 167 people made up the sample size for this investigation. The researcher utilized a sample size of 167 respondents due to the study's time constraints, making it easier to conduct the questionnaire. The population is 941 according to the formula below, and since the degree of confidence is 90%, e is computed as being 7%;

$$n = \frac{N}{1 + N \cdot e^2}$$

$$n = \frac{941}{1 + 941 \cdot 0.07^2} = 167$$

Table 3.1: Sample Size

	Population	Sample Size
Government Officials	141	25
Stakeholders (are business leaders, citizens and civil society organizations).	800	142
Total	941	167

Source: Researcher (2023).

3.5.2 Sampling Techniques

Sampling is a strategy for choosing certain individuals or a small subset of the population in order to draw statistical conclusions from them and estimate the characteristics of the entire population (Kothari, 2014). The researcher employed a combination of simple random sampling and purposive sampling techniques to select samples from the population. To select government officials from Tabora Regional Headquarters, a purposive sampling approach was used. This method allowed the researcher to deliberately choose participants who held key positions and possessed relevant knowledge and experience related to corruption and economic development in the region. By purposively selecting government officials, the study gathered valuable insights from those directly involved in policymaking and implementation. On the other hand, for selecting stakeholders from Tabora Regional Headquarters, a simple random sampling approach was employed. This technique ensured that every individual within the population had an equal chance of being selected as a sample participant (Cooper and Schindler 2018). By using random sampling, the study aimed to obtain a representative sample of stakeholders, including business leaders, citizens, and members

of civil society organizations. This approach helped reduce potential biases and enhanced the generalizability of the findings to the wider population.

3.6 Data Collection Methods

Cooper and Schindler (2018) define data collection as the process of gathering pertinent information to enable the researcher to properly evaluate the findings. The validation of research questions is the main objective of data collecting. Primary and secondary data was gathered by the researcher.

3.6.1 Questionnaire

To gather primary data, surveys and interviews were employed. Questionnaires were administered to selected government officials, business leaders, and citizens to capture their opinions, experiences, and attitudes towards corruption and economic development. The surveys were designed to ensure the anonymity and confidentiality of the respondents.

3.6.2 Interview

To gather comprehensive primary data, in addition to surveys, in-depth interviews were conducted with government officials, experts, and relevant stakeholders. These interviews served to obtain qualitative insights and a deeper understanding of the intricate channels through which corruption impacted economic development, as well as the most effective strategies for combating corruption. By capturing valuable narratives, diverse perspectives, and contextual information that surveys alone could not fully capture, these interviews enriched the data collection process and contributed to a more holistic understanding of the complex dynamics surrounding corruption and its impact on economic development.

3.6.3 Secondary Data

Secondary data was gathered through document review. This approach allows for the examination and analysis of existing literature, reports, articles, and other relevant documents related to corruption and economic development. The utilization of multiple data collection strategies was driven by the recognition that each strategy has its own advantages and disadvantages.

3.7 Data Analysis

descriptive and inferential statistics with the aid of Statistical Package for Social Science (SPSS) version 26. Descriptive statistics, such as means, frequencies, and percentages, were calculated to summarize the data and provide an overview of the variables under investigation. Inferential statistics, including regression analysis and correlation analysis, were used to explore relationships between variables, assess the significance of findings, and determine the impact of corruption on economic development. The qualitative data obtained from interviews and document reviews were analyzed using thematic analysis. This involved a systematic process of coding, categorizing, and interpreting the data to identify key themes, patterns, and insights. The researcher carefully reviewed interview transcripts, field notes, and documents to identify commonalities, differences, and emerging themes related to the perception of corruption, channels of corruption, and strategies for combating corruption.

3.8 Validity and Reliability

The two most crucial and essential aspects to consider when assessing any measuring tool or instrument are reliability and validity. The study technique chapter has to show reliability and validity in a succinct yet detailed way. Both validity and reliability were guaranteed in this investigation.

3.9.1 Reliability of Data

Reliability refers to equivalence and stability findings; after repeated testing with the same instrument, they are consistent. It measures consistency, precision, repeatability, and trustworthiness of a research (Amin 2015). It indicates the extent to which it is without bias (error free), and hence insures consistent measurement cross time and across the various items in the instruments (the observed scores). Some qualitative researchers use the term 'dependability' instead of reliability. In this study, researcher used the Cronbach's alpha technique to check data reliability. As noted by Fidell (2019), a Cronbach Alpha coefficient ranging from 0.60 to 0.99 is generally considered acceptable for demonstrating reliability of research instruments. In this study the results from the findings of Cronbach's Alpha was above 0.6 for all items, the coefficient are significant as shown in the table 3.2 below.

Table 3.2: Reliability Statistics

Reliability Statistics		
Variables	Cronbach's Alpha	N of Items
Perception of corruption	.758	10
Corruption channels	.715	10
Strategies	.782	10

Source: Field Data (2023).

3.9.2 Validity Data

Validity is essential to measure how accurately an instrument reflects its intended purpose (Fidell 2019). In this study, great care was taken to ensure the research instrument (questionnaire) effectively captured the concepts under investigation (Amin 2015). To validate the instrument, the Kaiser Meyer Olkin (KMO) technique was employed, yielding a robust KMO value of 0.723 and a

highly significant p-value of 0.000 from the Bartlett test, signifying its effectiveness in revealing underlying factors influencing the variables. As per Churchill (2016)'s suggestion, a KMO value of 0.6 or above and a significance level of less than 0.05 for the Bartlett test indicate dataset suitability for factor analysis. The detailed findings are presented in table 3.3.

Table 3.3: KMO and Bartlett's Test

KMO and Bartlett's Test		
Kaiser-Meyer-Olkin Measure of Sampling Adequacy.		.723
Bartlett's Test of Sphericity	Approx. Chi-Square	72.241
	df	9
	Sig.	.000

Source: Field data (2023).

3.9 Ethical Considerations

Researchers are professionals hence, research ethics as a branch of applied ethics has well established rules and guidelines that defines their conduct. Research ethics is important in our daily life research endeavours and requires that researchers should protect the dignity of their subjects and publish well the information that is researched (Creswell 2018). In this study, the data was collected, and the results were kept highly confidential. To ensure this level of confidentiality, full consent of the participants was required, and respondents were advised not to write their identities anywhere on the questionnaires. The study created no form of risk to participants or caused any form of worry, and the results were expected to be of value to Tabora Regional Headquarters.

CHAPTER FOUR

FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

4.1 Introduction

This chapter presents the findings obtained from data collected in relation with the effect of corruption on economic development in Tanzania, a case of Tabora Regional Headquarters. The results are presented and interpreted in accordance with the research objectives such as to examine the perception of corruption among key stakeholders, including government officials, business leaders, and citizens; to identify the specific channels through which corruption affects economic development and to establish strategies for combating corruption and promoting economic development in the Tabora region.

4.2 Sample Description

The researcher conducted fieldwork to administer questionnaires, which were divided into two sections: demographic information and specific questions. A total of 167 questionnaires were distributed to respondents. Each respondent was given three days to complete and return the questionnaire. The findings revealed a 100.0% participation rate, indicating that all respondents had completed the questionnaire within the given time frame. This enabled the researcher to proceed with editing, coding, and tabulating the data using SPSS version 26, to create statistical tables for analysis.

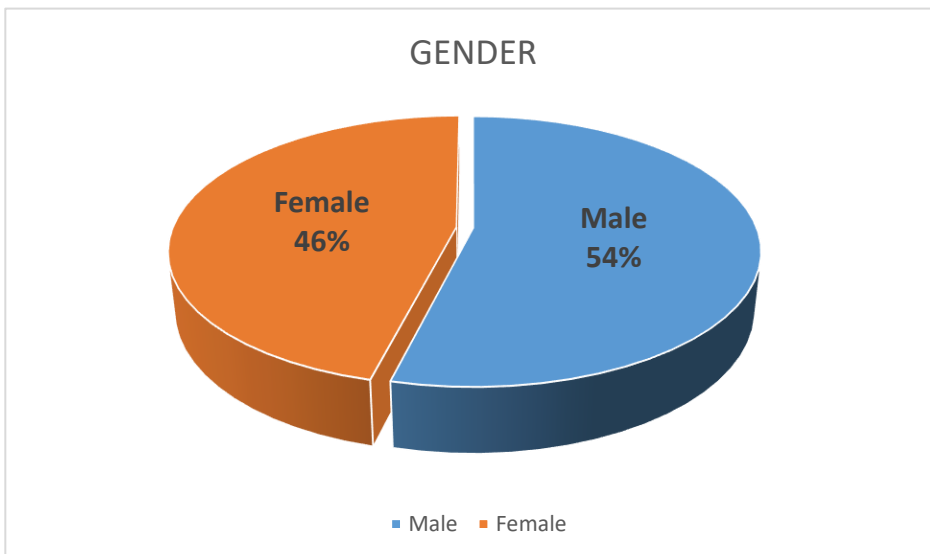
4.3 Demographic Information

Personal characteristics of respondents play a vital role in shaping their expression and responses to the research problem in social sciences research. This study delves into a specific set of personal characteristics, which are thoroughly examined and presented in this section.

4.4.1 Gender

The survey results show that 53.9% of the respondents were male, while 46.1% were female. This relatively balanced gender representation suggests that both male and female perspectives are valuable when assessing the impact of corruption on economic development in the Tabora region. Having diverse viewpoints lead to a comprehensive understanding of corruption's effects and contribute to more inclusive and effective strategies for combating corruption and promoting economic growth.

Figure 4.1: Gender

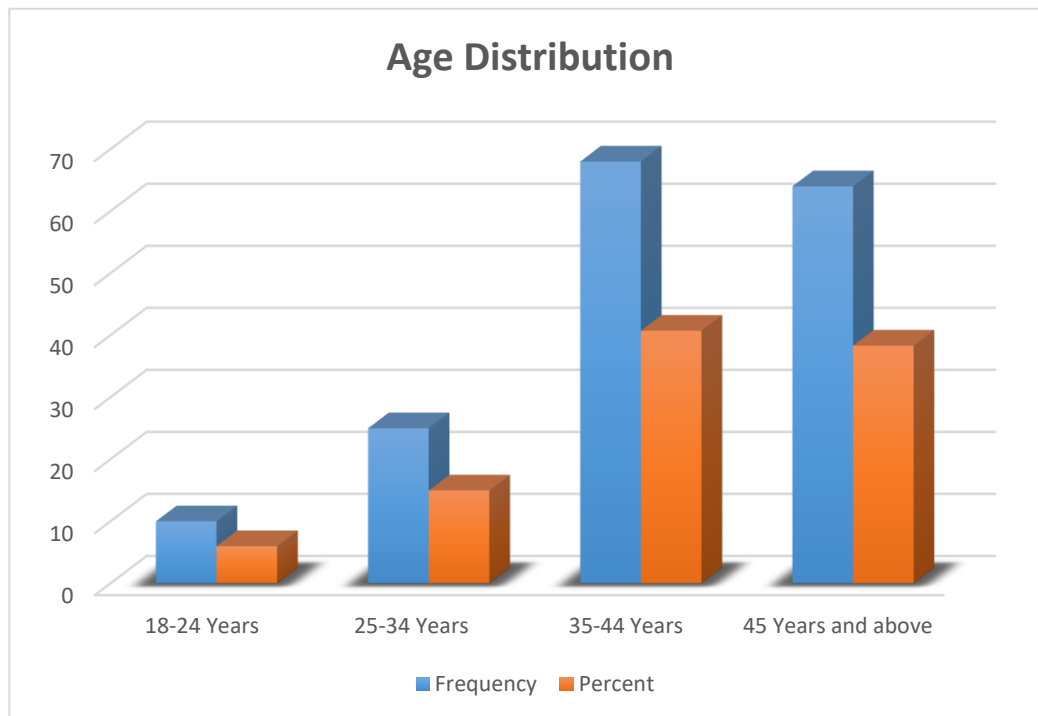


Source: Field Data (2023).

4.4.2 Age Distribution

Figure 4.2 shows that that 6.0% (10 respondents) were aged between 18 and 24 years, 15.0% (25 respondents) fell within the 25-34 age range, 40.7% (68 respondents) were aged between 35 and 44 years, and 38.3% (64 respondents) were 45 years and above. The significant representation of individuals aged 35 to 44 years suggests that this age group have a heightened awareness of corruption issues, likely due to their active participation in the workforce and public life. Engaging this demographic segment in anti-corruption initiatives could be highly beneficial, as they may play a crucial role in advocating for transparency, accountability, and good governance, leading to enhanced economic development in the Tabora region.

Figure 4.2: Age Distribution

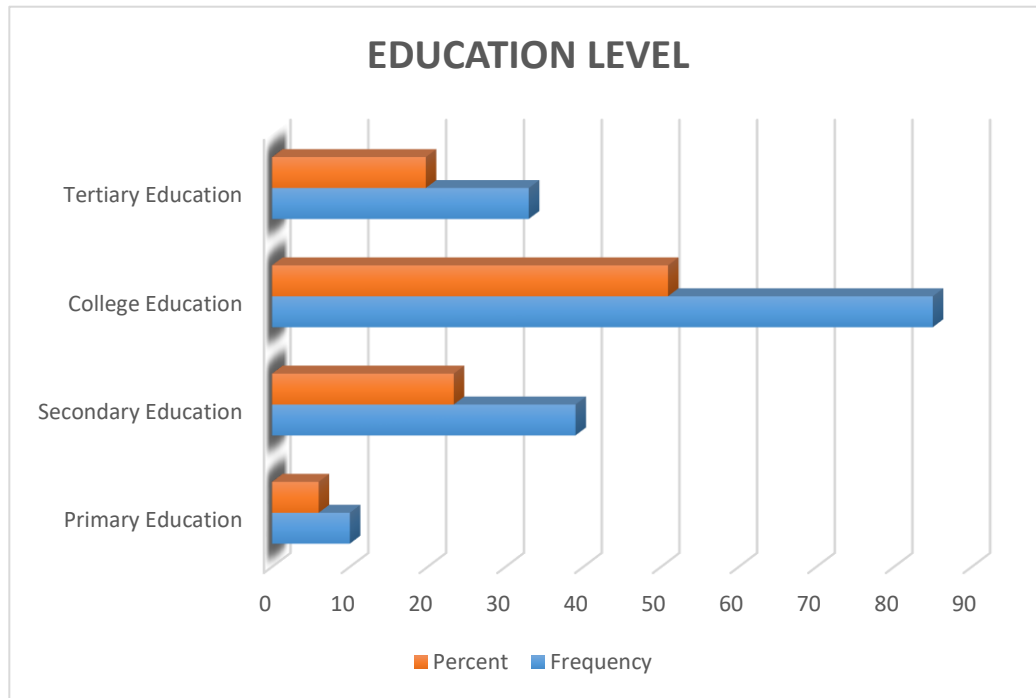


Source: Field Data (2023).

4.4.3 Education Level

Figure 4.3 indicated that 6.0% (10 respondents) had completed primary education, 23.4% (39 respondents) had secondary education, 50.9% (85 respondents) had attained a college education, and 19.8% (33 respondents) had pursued tertiary education. The prominence of college-educated respondents suggests that individuals with higher education possess a deeper understanding of corruption's detrimental impact on economic development. Thus, initiatives aimed at addressing corruption and promoting economic growth should consider targeting educated individuals, as they are more likely to be receptive to anti-corruption measures and can actively contribute to creating a more transparent and corruption-free society.

Figure 4.3: Education Level

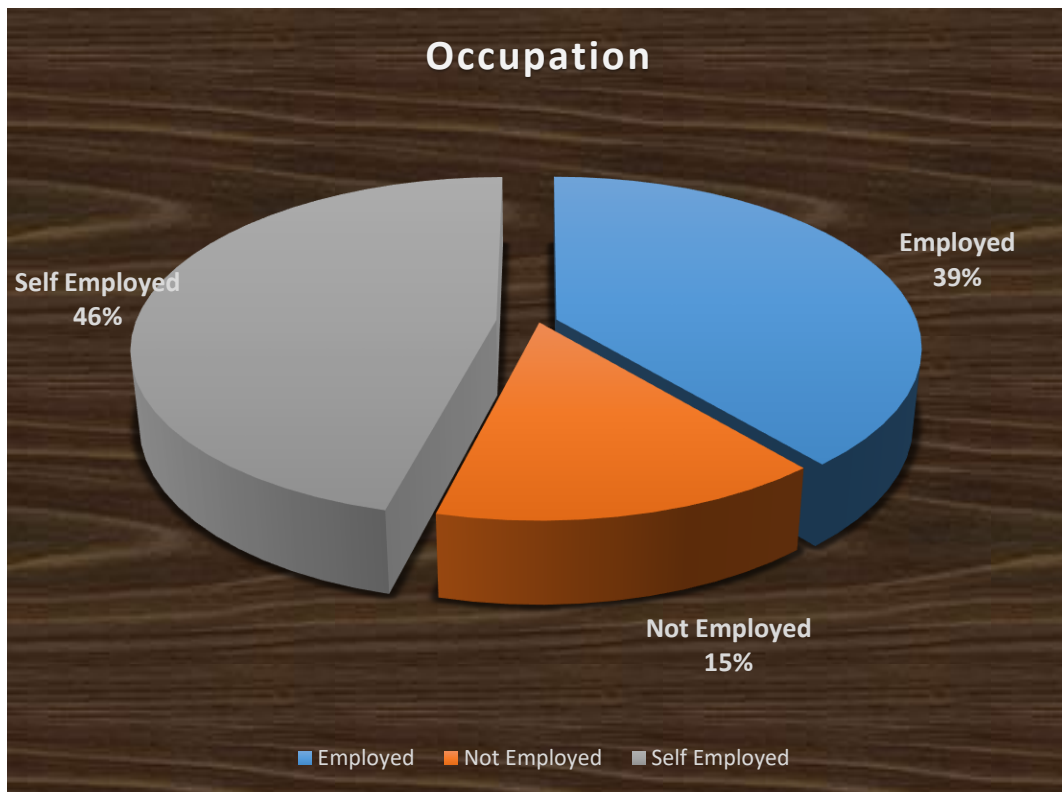


Source: Field Data (2023).

4.2.4 Occupation

Figure 4.4 showed that 38.9% (65 respondents) were employed, 15.0% (25 respondents) were not employed, and 46.1% (77 respondents) were self-employed. The prevalence of self-employed respondents highlights their potential vulnerability to corruption's negative effects on business activities. Addressing corruption is crucial for creating an environment that supports entrepreneurship and business growth, ultimately enhancing economic development prospects in the Tabora region. By implementing anti-corruption measures, opportunities for economic growth can be fostered for self-employed individuals and other economic stakeholders in the region.

Figure 4.4: Occupation

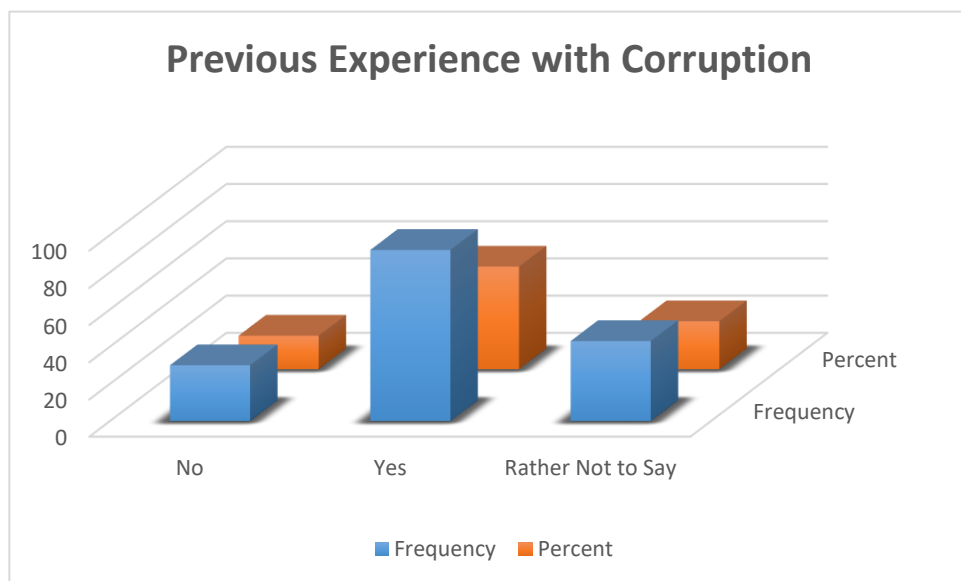


Source: Field Data (2023).

4.2.5 Previous Experience with Corruption

Regarding previous experience with corruption, figure 4.5 indicated that 18.0% (30 respondents) of the participants reported having no prior experience with corruption, 55.1% (92 respondents) indicated having previous experience with corruption, and 25.7% (43 respondents) chose not to disclose their experience. The high number of respondents who reported having prior experience with corruption implies that corruption is a widespread issue in the Tabora region. This finding underscores the urgent need for effective anti-corruption measures. Addressing corruption is vital for restoring public trust in institutions, curbing misallocation of resources, and dismantling obstacles to economic development. By tackling corruption, the region can move towards a more transparent and accountable society, thereby fostering an environment conducive to sustainable economic growth.

Figure 4.5: Previous Experience with Corruption



Source: Field Data (2023).

4.4 Presentation of Findings

In this section, the data were thoroughly examined using SPSS version 26 and descriptive statistics. Mean values were employed to determine the ranges on a five-point scale: below 1.5 denoting no extent, 1.5-2.4 denoting little extent, 2.5-3.4 denoting moderate extent, 3.5-4.4 denoting large extent, and above 4.5 denoting a very large extent. The key findings were effectively presented in tables. Additionally, the standard deviation was considered as a measure of dispersion, where a low value indicated data closely clustered around the mean, and a high value indicated greater dispersion.

Furthermore, alongside quantitative analysis, qualitative data were examined using content analysis. This approach yielded valuable insights from interviews conducted with 25 respondents. These interviews provided a deeper comprehension of the research topic, offering valuable perspectives from various stakeholders on the impact of corruption on economic development in Tanzania.

4.4.1 Perception of Corruption Among Key Stakeholders

In pursuit of the first objective, the researcher aimed to examine the perception of corruption among key stakeholders, including government officials, business leaders, and citizens, in the Tabora region. The statement was presented to the respondents, and the results are presented in Table 4.1 below.

Table 4.1: Perception of Corruption Among Key Stakeholders

Perception of Corruption Among Key Stakeholders	Mean	SD
Corruption is a widespread problem among government officials in the region.	4.0	0.9
The presence of corruption undermines the credibility and effectiveness of public institutions in the region.	3.3	0.7
Business transactions in the region are significantly affected by corrupt practices.	4.0	1.0
Corruption hinders fair competition and distorts market dynamics in the region.	3.7	1.2
The prevalence of corruption leads to misallocation of resources.	3.8	1.3
Citizens perceive corruption as a common practice in public service delivery.	3.5	1.1
Corruption erodes public trust in institutions in the region.	3.9	1.1
Efforts to combat corruption in region have been inadequate.	3.4	1.1
The existence of corruption poses a significant obstacle to economic development.	4.3	1.3
The perception of corruption among key stakeholders needs to be addressed to foster a transparent and accountable society.	4.4	1.1
COMPOSITE MEAN	3.83	

Source: Field Data (2023).

Findings noted that, to a large extent, respondents expressed that corruption is a widespread problem among government officials in the region (Mean = 4.0, SD = 0.9). While, to a moderate extent, the majority of respondents indicated that the presence of corruption undermines the credibility and effectiveness of public institutions in the region (Mean = 3.3, SD = 0.7). During the interview, respondents added that:

Corruption erodes the trust citizens place in their leaders and hampers the effective functioning of our government. Such unethical practices not only tarnish the reputation of our region but also hinder our progress towards economic development.

This issue [corruption] is particularly alarming as it directly impacts the delivery of essential services and public trust in our government. When corruption seeps into the workings of our institutions, it weakens their ability to serve the needs of the people.

Also, to a large extent, respondents reported that business transactions in the region are significantly affected by corrupt practices (Mean = 4.0, SD = 1.0) and corruption hinders fair competition and distorts market dynamics in the region (Mean = 3.7, SD = 1.2). During the interview, participants stated that:

Corruption is deeply ingrained in our business landscape, posing a serious threat to fair competition and honest economic activities. The prevalence of corrupt practices distorts market dynamics, leading to an uneven playing field for businesses.

Corruption is a worrisome problem as it impacts the overall health of our economy. When corrupt practices influence business transactions, it leads to an environment where dishonesty and favoritism prevail over merit and innovation. This undermines the trust of both consumers and businesses, hindering economic growth and potential investments.

The study discovered that, to a large extent, a considerable number of respondents acknowledged that the prevalence of corruption leads to misallocation of resources (Mean = 3.8, SD = 1.3), citizens perceive corruption as a common practice in public service delivery (Mean = 3.5, SD = 1.1) and erodes public trust in institutions in the region (Mean = 3.9, SD = 1.1). During the interview, participants indicated that:

Our resources are not being utilized optimally, and corruption is diverting them away from their intended purposes.

Corruption is a common practice in public service delivery, and it significantly erodes public trust in institutions. This paints a grim picture of the state of governance and the confidence that citizens have in their public officials.

It is disheartening to know that valuable resources meant for the betterment of society are being diverted or misused due to corrupt practices. This misallocation can have far-reaching consequences, affecting the quality of public services and hindering our region's development.

“...the erosion of public trust in institutions due to corruption further exacerbates the problem. This lack of trust hinders cooperation and collaboration between citizens and government entities, making it difficult to address important issues and achieve sustainable development.

To a moderate extent, a significant group of respondents pointed out that efforts to combat corruption in the region have been inadequate (Mean = 3.4, SD = 1.1). This suggests that despite some measures taken to address corruption, there are still substantial challenges in effectively curbing corrupt practices. The perception of inadequacy stem from the persistence of corrupt incidents and lack of tangible results in reducing corruption's impact. It is crucial for stakeholders to take these concerns seriously and work collaboratively to strengthen anti-corruption measures and foster a more transparent and accountable system to combat corruption effectively and promote economic development.

To a large extent, respondents strongly emphasized that the existence of corruption poses a significant obstacle to economic development (Mean = 4.3, SD = 1.3). During the interview, one of the participants claimed that:

“... this is a critical issue that cannot be ignored, as corruption undermines the efficient allocation of resources and impedes progress in various sectors. It deters potential investors and businesses from engaging in our region's economy, hampering growth and prosperity.”

To a very large extent, respondents strongly advocated that the perception of corruption among key stakeholders needs to be addressed to foster a transparent and accountable society (Mean = 4.4, SD = 1.1). This is an essential concern, as the perception of corruption can erode public trust in our institutions and hinder effective governance. Addressing this issue is crucial for restoring public confidence and ensuring that our region's resources are utilized for the betterment of society. It calls for robust measures to promote transparency and accountability in our governance systems.

The composite mean across all perceptions of corruption among key stakeholders is 3.83, indicating a substantial extent of perceived corruption overall. This implies that there is a prevalent and concerning perception of corruption among various stakeholders in the region. The relatively high composite mean signifies that corruption is perceived to have a significant presence and impact on different aspects of governance and economic activities in the area. As such, addressing these perceptions becomes crucial to fostering a more transparent, accountable, and corruption-free environment, which is essential for promoting sustainable economic development and building public trust in the region's institutions.

4.4.2 Channels Through Which Corruption Affects Economic Development

On the second objective, the researcher aimed to identify the specific channels through which corruption affects economic development in the Tabora region. The statement provided to respondents and the findings are provided in the table 4.2 below:

Table 4.2: Channels Through Which Corruption Affects Economic Development

Channels Through Which Corruption Affects Economic Development	Mean	SD
Inefficient allocation of public resources due to corrupt practices hampers economic development	3.7	0.9
Corruption in public procurement processes negatively impacts infrastructure development and public service delivery	3.5	1.1
Embezzlement and misappropriation of public funds by corrupt individuals hinder investment in key sectors of the economy.	3.1	1.2
The bribery and extortion of businesses by corrupt officials undermine the growth and competitiveness of the private sector	3.5	1.3
Nepotism and favoritism in hiring and promotion practices due to corruption limit opportunities for skilled individuals and hinder human capital development	3.5	1.1
Corruption leads to a lack of transparency and accountability in governance, impeding the implementation of effective policies for economic development	3.5	0.9
The diversion of funds meant for public infrastructure projects to personal bank accounts or illicit activities hampers the infrastructure development	4.0	0.8
Illicit financial flows and money laundering resulting from corrupt practices drain resources from the region's economy, hindering its development.	3.4	0.9
The influence of corruption in the judiciary and law enforcement agencies undermines the rule of law and investor confidence	4.5	1.2
Corruption in land administration and property rights leads to insecure land tenure, discouraging investments and inhibiting economic development	3.7	0.9
COMPOSITE MEAN	3.65	

Source: Field Data (2023).

Findings showed that inefficient allocation of public resources due to corrupt practices hampers economic development (Mean = 3.7, SD = 0.9) and corruption in public procurement processes negatively impacts infrastructure development and public service delivery (Mean = 3.5, SD = 1.1). During the interview, one of the participants claimed that:

Precious resources meant for public welfare are diverted for personal gains, resulting in missed opportunities for growth and progress. The mismanagement of resources not only hampers vital projects but also undermines public trust in the government's ability to effectively address societal needs.

Corruption in public procurement processes is a deeply troubling issue as it directly affects the well-being and quality of life of our citizens. When funds allocated for public projects are misused or siphoned off through corrupt means, it impedes the much-needed improvements in infrastructure and essential services

To a moderate extent, the study found that embezzlement and misappropriation of public funds by corrupt individuals hinder investment in key sectors of the economy (Mean = 3.1, SD = 1.2). This points to a serious obstacle in the economic development as resources that should be invested in vital sectors are diverted for personal gain. Such corrupt practices not only deter potential investors but also undermine the growth and prosperity of our economy.

To a large extent, respondents reported that the bribery and extortion of businesses by corrupt officials undermine the growth and competitiveness of the private sector (Mean = 3.5, SD = 1.3). Also, findings showed that nepotism and favoritism in hiring and promotion practices due to

corruption limit opportunities for skilled individuals and hinder human capital development (Mean = 3.5, SD = 1.1). During the interview, one of the participants added that:

This corrupt behavior creates an unfair playing field, where businesses are coerced into paying bribes or facing extortion to operate effectively. Such unethical practices not only erode the trust between businesses and officials but also hinder the sector's ability to thrive and contribute to the economy

“... his situation is disheartening as it undermines the potential growth and progress of our workforce. When qualifications and merit are overlooked in favor of personal connections, it weakens the overall talent pool and negatively impacts our region's potential for economic development.

Also, majority of the respondents pointed out that corruption leads to a lack of transparency and accountability in governance, impeding the implementation of effective policies for economic development (Mean = 3.7, SD = 0.7). To a moderate extent, the majority of participants stated that the diversion of funds meant for public infrastructure projects to personal bank accounts or illicit activities directly hampers the progress of infrastructure development (Mean = 4.0, SD = 0.8).

During the interview, one of the participants postulated that:

When there is a lack of transparency, citizens are left in the dark about government actions and decisions. This erodes public trust in our institutions and hampers the effective implementation of policies that could drive economic development

Diversion of funds meant for these projects to personal bank accounts or illicit activities directly hampers infrastructure development. This is a significant setback as it deprives our

region of much-needed investments in essential public infrastructure. The misallocation of funds due to corruption hinders progress and stalls our efforts to improve the quality of life for our citizens

Corruption creates a culture of favoritism and nepotism within government agencies and institutions. This leads to unfair distribution of resources and opportunities, favoring a select few while neglecting the majority of the population. Such favoritism stifles innovation and entrepreneurship, limiting the potential for economic growth and development.

When resources meant for social welfare programs and poverty alleviation are siphoned off through corrupt practices, vulnerable and marginalized communities bear the brunt of the consequences. The lack of access to basic services, healthcare, and education perpetuates a cycle of poverty, hindering social mobility and overall development.

To a moderate extent, the study found that illicit financial flows and money laundering resulting from corrupt practices drain resources from the region's economy, hindering its growth and development (Mean = 3.4, SD = 0.9). Illicit financial flows and money laundering divert funds that could otherwise be utilized for investments, public services, and infrastructure development. This not only weakens the region's economic foundation but also undermines the trust and confidence of investors and businesses in the integrity of the financial system.

The study highlighted that the influence of corruption in the judiciary and law enforcement agencies undermines the rule of law and investor confidence (Mean = 4.5, SD = 1.2). Also, corruption in land administration and property rights leads to insecure land tenure, discouraging investments and

inhibiting economic development (Mean = 3.7, SD = 0.9). During the interview, one of the respondents indicated that:

The influence of corruption in the judiciary and law enforcement agencies is deeply troubling as it undermines the rule of law and investor confidence. When corruption seeps into these essential institutions, it erodes the trust that citizens and investors place in our legal system. This erosion of trust has far-reaching consequences, impacting economic stability and deterring potential investors from engaging with our region.

Corruption in these areas leads to insecure land tenure, which ultimately discourages investments and inhibits our region's economic development. The lack of secure property rights hinders potential investments as investors are hesitant to engage in an environment with uncertain land ownership. This situation also affects individuals who may want to utilize their property as collateral for loans or business ventures.

The composite mean of 3.65 across all channels through which corruption affects economic development implies that respondents perceive a significant and substantial impact of corruption on the region's overall development. This underscores the severity of the problem and highlights the urgency of addressing corruption to foster a more prosperous and sustainable economic environment. It also emphasizes the need for comprehensive strategies and measures to combat corruption and promote transparent, accountable, and equitable practices that can drive positive economic growth and development in the region.

4.4.3 Strategies for Combating Corruption and Promoting Economic Development

On the third objective, the researcher intended to establish strategies for combating corruption and promoting economic development in the Tabora region. The statement provided to respondents and the findings are provided in the table 4.3 below:

Table 4.3: Strategies for Combating Corruption and Promoting Economic Development

Strategies for Combating Corruption and Promoting Economic Development	Mean	SD
Strengthening anti-corruption laws and regulations is essential for combating corruption and promoting economic development	3.6	1.1
Enhancing transparency and accountability in government processes is crucial for effectively addressing corruption	3.8	0.8
Investing in the training and capacity building of public officials to raise awareness about the detrimental effects of corruption	3.7	1.1
Promoting a culture of integrity and ethical behavior among government officials and business leaders	3.2	1.1
Encouraging citizen participation and engagement in decision-making processes	3.7	1.2
Establishing independent anti-corruption bodies with sufficient resources and authority	3.7	1.0
Encouraging international cooperation and collaboration in anti-corruption	3.8	0.6
Implementing effective whistleblower protection mechanisms can encourage individuals to report corruption	3.7	0.9
Fostering a business-friendly environment with clear regulations, simplified procedures, and reduced bureaucratic hurdles	4.2	0.7
Strengthening public awareness campaigns and education programs on the negative consequences of corruption	4.7	0.6
COMPOSITE MEAN	3.81	

Source: Field Data (2023).

The findings showed that to a large extent, strengthening anti-corruption laws and regulations is (Mean = 3.6, SD = 1.1) and enhancing transparency and accountability in government processes is crucial for effectively addressing corruption and fostering economic development (Mean = 3.8, SD = 0.8). During the interview, one of the participants added that:

“Strengthening anti-corruption laws act as a deterrent and send a strong message that unethical behavior will not be tolerated. By addressing the root causes of corruption through legal means, we can lay the foundation for a more transparent and accountable society, which is vital for fostering economic development

“Transparency and accountability are key elements in building public trust and confidence in our government. When citizens hold their officials accountable and have access to transparent information, it fosters a sense of responsibility among those in power. This, in turn, can lead to more effective governance and better utilization of resources for economic development, benefiting the entire region.”

Majority of the respondents emphasized that investing in the training and capacity building of public officials to raise awareness about the detrimental effects of corruption is necessary for promoting economic development (Mean = 3.7, SD = 1.1). Through such awareness-raising initiatives, public officials can become more vigilant in identifying and addressing corruption, making them better equipped to protect public resources and serve the interests of the citizens. Ultimately, investing in their capacity building can lead to improved governance, increased transparency, and a more accountable administration, fostering an environment that is conducive to sustainable economic growth and development.

Findings showed that promoting a culture of integrity and ethical behavior among government officials and business leaders is vital for combating corruption and driving economic development (Mean = 3.2, SD = 1.1). Creating a culture where ethical conduct is valued and upheld is essential in the fight against corruption. When government officials and business leaders lead by example and prioritize integrity, it sets a strong foundation for transparency and accountability. Such a culture fosters public trust and confidence, enabling more effective governance and decision-making processes.

To a large extent, respondents stated that encouraging citizen participation and engagement in decision-making processes (Mean = 3.7, SD = 1.2) and establishing independent anti-corruption bodies with sufficient resources and authority is a crucial strategy for combating corruption and fostering economic development (Mean = 3.7, SD = 1.0). During the interview, one of the participants postulated that:

When citizens actively participate in decision-making, it promotes transparency, inclusivity, and accountability. By involving the public in key decisions, we can ensure that policies and initiatives align with the needs and aspirations of the people. This empowers citizens and strengthens their connection to the government.

By actively involving citizens in key decisions, we can ensure a more democratic and representative governance structure. This fosters a sense of ownership and responsibility among the public and can lead to policies that truly address their needs.

Findings showed that encouraging international cooperation and collaboration (Mean = 3.8, SD = 0.6) as well as encourage individuals to report corruption and contribute to the overall efforts of

combating corruption and promoting economic development (Mean = 3.7, SD = 0.9). During the interview, one of the participants emphasized that:

“Corruption is a global challenge, and working together with other countries can provide valuable insights and support in tackling this issue. By fostering international partnerships, we can share best practices, strengthen legal frameworks, and collectively address cross-border corruption challenges. Collaboration at the international level is vital to create a united front against corruption and promote economic development on a global scale

Reporting corruption is a courageous act that can bring corrupt practices to light and pave the way for accountability and transparency. By fostering an environment where individuals feel safe to report wrongdoing, we can empower them to be agents of change in our fight against corruption.

The research revealed that fostering a business-friendly environment with clear regulations, simplified procedures, and reduced bureaucratic hurdles can contribute to curbing corruption and stimulating economic development (Mean = 4.2, SD = 0.7). By streamlining regulations and minimizing bureaucratic obstacles, businesses can operate more efficiently and transparently. This can discourage corrupt practices that often thrive in complex and ambiguous systems. A business-friendly environment can attract investments, promote entrepreneurship, and create opportunities for growth, ultimately contributing to the overall economic prosperity of the region.

Moreover, respondents strongly emphasized that strengthening public awareness campaigns and education programs on the negative consequences of corruption can help to mobilize public support

for anti-corruption initiatives and drive economic development (Mean = 4.7, SD = 0.6). During the interview, one of the participants added that:

When people understand the real costs of corruption, they are more likely to actively engage in efforts to combat it. This heightened awareness can serve as a powerful catalyst for change, driving economic development and fostering a more transparent and accountable society.

Raising awareness about corruption's detrimental effects is essential for empowering citizens to take a stand against this pervasive problem. When the public is well-informed, they can demand accountability from their leaders and actively participate in anti-corruption efforts. These educational initiatives can inspire collective action and create a united front against corruption, ultimately contributing to a more prosperous and sustainable future for our region

The composite mean of 3.81 across all strategies for combating corruption and promoting economic development implies that these measures are perceived to have a large extent of effectiveness in addressing corruption and fostering economic development. This suggests that these strategies are viewed as critical components of building a transparent, accountable, and prosperous society in Tabora.

4.6 Discussion of Findings

4.6.1 Perception of Corruption Among Key Stakeholders

The study's findings revealed a concerning and pervasive perception of corruption among government officials at the Tabora Regional Headquarters, which had significant repercussions on

business transactions in the region. In the same view, Svensson (2020) highlighted misappropriation and theft of funds intended for public activities as particularly detrimental types of corruption plaguing the area. Such corrupt practices likely hindered the proper allocation of resources, negatively impacting public projects, services, and economic development initiatives in the region. The prevalence of these corrupt practices poses a considerable challenge to fostering a transparent and accountable governance system and undermines the potential for sustainable economic growth in Tabora. Addressing these issues requires effective strategies to combat corruption, restore public trust, and promote an environment conducive to honest and accountable governance and economic development.

The study's findings highlighted the detrimental effects of corruption on public institutions' credibility, with a considerable number of respondents acknowledging its negative impact on resource allocation. Lambsdorff (2017) also reinforced these conclusions, indicating that corruption weakens the credibility of public sectors. These findings suggest that corrupt practices erode public trust in government institutions and hinder the efficient allocation of resources meant for public welfare and development projects. The compromised credibility of public sectors due to corruption poses a significant challenge to fostering a transparent, accountable, and effective governance system in the region. Therefore, combating corruption becomes essential to rebuilding trust in public institutions, promoting sound resource management, and ultimately fostering sustainable economic development in Tabora.

The study unveiled a disconcerting perception among respondents, who viewed corruption as a widespread issue in public service delivery, with notable inadequacies in anti-corruption efforts. Treisman (2020) emphasized the significance of this problem by highlighting how prevalent corrupt

practices among public officials and administrators posed significant challenges to effective governance, fair resource allocation, and equitable service delivery. The presence of corruption in public service undermines public trust, hampers the efficient allocation of resources, and compromises the delivery of essential services to the citizens of the region. Addressing this issue requires comprehensive and targeted anti-corruption measures that not only tackle the corrupt practices but also reinforce transparency, accountability, and ethical conduct among government officials and administrators. Such efforts are crucial for fostering a conducive environment for equitable development and sustainable progress in the Tabora region.

Findings underscored the substantial hindrance that corruption poses to economic development, emphasizing the need to tackle stakeholders' perceptions of corruption to cultivate a transparent and accountable society in the context of Tabora Regional Headquarters. Similarly, Aidt, Dutta, & Sena (2018) emphasized that corruption not only directly impacts economic activities but also influences stakeholders' perceptions, shaping their willingness to engage in economic endeavors. This implies that addressing corruption is not solely about combating illicit practices but also about fostering an environment that promotes trust, integrity, and ethical behavior, thereby encouraging active participation in economic activities. It is possible to build efficient measures to fight corruption and advance sustainable economic development in the Tabora region by identifying and addressing the underlying views and attitudes toward corruption.

4.6.2 Channels Through Which Corruption Affects Economic Development

The study highlighted the detrimental effects of both inefficient allocations of public resources and corruption in public procurement processes on infrastructure development and public service

delivery. The research findings align with Husted and de Sousa-Filho's (2022) findings, which indicated that corruption has a tendency to divert funds away from critical sectors and essential services, leading to compromised resource allocation for public welfare. In Tabora region, these issues likely hampered the timely and effective completion of infrastructure projects, resulting in inadequate public services and limited access to essential amenities for the local population. In order to ensure transparent, accountable, and equitable resource distribution for the development of sustainable infrastructure and improved public service delivery in Tabora, addressing these issues requires a comprehensive strategy that addresses both ineffective resource allocation and corruption in public procurement.

Findings of this study underscored the detrimental impact of corruption on both the public and private sectors in the context of Tabora Regional Headquarters. Specifically, the research revealed that embezzlement and misappropriation of public funds by corrupt individuals, along with bribery and extortion of businesses by corrupt officials, significantly hampered the growth and competitiveness of the private sector in the region. These corrupt practices compromised the effective allocation of resources, hindered business operations, and undermined the trust and confidence necessary for a thriving business environment. The observed patterns align with the Principal-Agent Theory, which posits that corruption arises when individuals in positions of authority exploit their entrusted power for personal gain, such as accepting bribes, embezzling funds, or engaging in favoritism, rather than prioritizing the best interests of the principals they serve.

Jain (2018) pointed out that the most fundamental type of corruption occurs when bureaucrats or members of the political establishment solicit money or other benefits in exchange for providing favors, public services, or expediting specific tasks. This study unveiled the adverse effects of

corruption, such as nepotism and favoritism, on hiring and promotion practices, resulting in limited opportunities for talented individuals and hindering human capital development in the region. Additionally, the Rent-Seeking theory emphasized that corruption disrupts fair competition, leading to inefficient resource allocation and impeding overall economic development. The prevalence of such corrupt practices in the region likely undermines trust in public institutions, discourages investment, and stifles entrepreneurship, ultimately hampering the region's potential for sustained economic growth. To foster a thriving and equitable economy in the Tabora Regional Headquarters, it is imperative to address corruption, promote transparency, and implement policies that encourage fair competition and merit-based practices in governance and economic activities.

The study findings demonstrate a clear link between corruption and its detrimental effects on transparency and accountability in governance, which consequently hampers the successful implementation of effective economic development policies. Schulze's research (2018) reinforces this notion, as it highlights how corruption results in reduced investment, lower productivity, and inefficient resource allocation, all of which collectively hinder overall economic progress. In the context of the Tabora region, corruption's impact on governance is likely to disrupt public trust, discourage private investments, and impede the allocation of resources to projects that would foster economic growth. Combating corruption becomes essential for regaining investor confidence, transparency, and accountability, and for releasing the region's potential for long-term economic growth. To create a climate that is favorable for economic development and progress in Tabora, anti-corruption initiatives must be put into place, as must a culture of integrity within the public and private sectors.

Additionally, the study's findings underscored the alarming diversion of funds designated for public infrastructure projects into personal bank accounts or illicit activities, exacerbating the impact of corrupt practices on the Tabora region's economic growth. The illicit financial flows and money laundering stemming from such corruption further drain valuable resources from the local economy, posing significant obstacles to sustainable economic development. These findings align with the research conducted by Mauro (2020), which also highlighted how corruption acts as a major deterrent to investment, disrupts market mechanisms, and hampers the efficient allocation of resources – all of which have severe implications for the region's economic progress. Consequently, the prevalence of corrupt practices not only undermines public trust in the government but also deters potential investors and stifles the growth potential of local businesses. Effectively combatting corruption and its associated illicit activities in Tabora is imperative to foster an environment of transparency, accountability, and equitable resource allocation, which are vital for the region's overall economic development and prosperity.

The findings of this study shed light on the detrimental impact of corruption within the judiciary and law enforcement agencies, leading to a serious erosion of the rule of law and a decline in investor confidence in the Tabora region. The research conducted by Mbaku (2019) further emphasized that this issue is not unique to Tabora alone but is part of a broader problem prevalent across Africa, where weakened institutions and a lack of respect for the rule of law hamper the efforts to combat corruption effectively. In Tabora, the influence of corruption within the judicial and law enforcement systems is likely to deter potential investors, impede fair and transparent resolution of disputes, and create an atmosphere of uncertainty for businesses and citizens alike. Addressing this issue necessitates comprehensive efforts to strengthen the judiciary and law enforcement institutions,

enhance their independence and integrity, and promote a culture of accountability and transparency. Only by restoring confidence in the rule of law can Tabora take significant strides towards curbing corruption and fostering an environment conducive to sustainable economic development and prosperity.

The research findings highlighted a distressing correlation between corruption in land administration and property rights and its adverse effects on land tenure security, resulting in a discouragement of investments and hindrance to economic development. Specifically, corrupt practices in managing land and property rights create an atmosphere of uncertainty and instability, deterring potential investors from engaging in land-related ventures and development projects. This situation significantly hampers economic growth and progress in the region. Furthermore, Amin & Djankov (2019) demonstrated that corruption has a particularly damaging impact on economies heavily reliant on natural resources. In such resource-dependent economies, corrupt practices exacerbate existing challenges and hinder sustainable development, as the potential benefits from natural resource exploitation are undermined by corrupt actors seeking personal gains. Consequently, addressing corruption in both land administration and resource-dependent sectors becomes crucial in unlocking the full economic potential of the region and promoting a conducive environment for sustainable economic development in Tabora.

4.6.3 Strategies for Combating Corruption and Promoting Economic Development

The research findings depicted the importance of fortifying anti-corruption laws and regulations, along with promoting transparency and accountability in government processes, as indispensable measures for effectively combating corruption and driving substantial economic development.

Mbaku (2019) emphasized that transparency, adherence to standards, and the presence of robust institutions play pivotal roles in intensifying the fight against corruption. By enacting and enforcing stringent anti-corruption laws, coupled with mechanisms to ensure transparency and accountability in governance, the Tabora region can create an environment where corrupt practices are deterred and individuals are held accountable for their actions. These actions would not only restore public trust but also facilitate increased foreign investments and foster a conducive environment for sustainable economic growth in the region.

This study highlighted the significance of investing in training and capacity building for public officials in Tabora Regional Headquarters as a crucial step towards combatting corruption and promoting economic development. By increasing awareness about the harmful consequences of corruption and fostering a culture of integrity among government officials and business leaders, there is a greater potential to curb corrupt practices in the region. The research, as emphasized by Jain (2020), underscored the importance of political elites making decisions and prioritizing the common welfare of the people over personal motives. This ethical approach to governance is essential in building trust and credibility within the government and ensuring that policies and actions are geared towards the greater good of society rather than self-interest. By combining efforts to enhance the knowledge and integrity of public officials, alongside promoting ethical leadership at all levels, Tabora can pave the way for sustainable economic development and a more transparent, accountable, and equitable society.

The study emphasized the positive impact of citizen participation in decision-making processes as a significant factor in implementing effective anti-corruption measures and fostering moderate economic development. Encouraging active involvement of citizens in governance allows for

increased transparency, accountability, and public scrutiny, acting as a check against corrupt practices. Additionally, Fayemi (2019) further asserts that prioritizing the public interest over politicians' desire to retain power is crucial in the fight against corruption. When leaders focus on serving the needs of the people and act in the best interest of the nation, it can lead to reduced corruption and create an environment conducive to economic growth and development. Emphasizing citizen participation and promoting a public-interest-driven approach can help curb corruption, enhance governance effectiveness, and foster sustainable economic progress in the context of Tabora Regional Headquarters.

Furthermore, the findings emphasized the significant impact of establishing independent anti-corruption bodies and fostering international cooperation and collaboration on promoting economic development in the Tabora region. The research highlighted that the presence of dedicated and autonomous institutions focused on combating corruption played a crucial role in curbing corrupt practices and enhancing transparency and accountability within the government and business sectors. Additionally, the study corroborated these findings with the work of Hunt (2017), who demonstrated the effectiveness of international interventions aimed at reducing bribery and improving service delivery. The involvement of international bodies in tackling corruption not only reinforces the importance of combating corruption on a global scale but also facilitates the exchange of best practices and resources to address corruption-related challenges in Tabora more effectively. The Tabora region can establish a climate that is favorable to sustainable economic growth by putting these policies into effect. This will also attract investment, foster ethical corporate practices, and increase public confidence in government.

The research findings demonstrated that the implementation of robust whistleblower protection mechanisms plays a crucial role in encouraging individuals to report instances of corruption. Additionally, creating a business-friendly environment can effectively curb corruption and foster economic development. These insights align with the studies conducted by Rose-Ackerman (2020) and Banerjee and Duflo (2021), who emphasized the significance of reinforcing legal frameworks, promoting transparency, and enhancing accountability mechanisms in combating corruption and promoting economic growth. Furthermore, the work of Olken (2021) highlighted the importance of employing anti-corruption strategies, such as social audits and community monitoring, to effectively curb corrupt practices and ultimately improve economic development outcomes. Embracing these measures in the context of Tabora Regional Headquarters can help create a more transparent, accountable, and business-friendly atmosphere, thereby fostering an environment that facilitates sustainable economic progress and development in the region.

Furthermore, the study's findings highlighted the effectiveness of strengthening public awareness campaigns and educational efforts in the fight against corruption, which, in turn, fostered significant support for anti-corruption initiatives and contributed to enhanced economic development in the Tabora region. Mungiu-Pippidi's research (2019) corroborated these results, emphasizing the crucial role of training and education campaigns, along with a robust good governance agenda, in combating corruption and facilitating economic progress. By equipping the public with knowledge about the detrimental consequences of corruption and promoting a culture of transparency and accountability, these initiatives could empower citizens to actively participate in the fight against corruption. Additionally, a well-structured governance framework would help establish effective

mechanisms for preventing and addressing corrupt practices, ultimately creating an enabling environment for sustainable economic growth and development in Tabora.

CHAPTER FIVE

CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

5.1 Introduction

this chapter presents the summary, conclusions, and recommendations derived from the study assessing the effect of corruption on economic development in Tanzania, with a focus on the Tabora Regional Headquarters. The section offers a concise summary of the major findings in line with the specific objectives of the research. Additionally, it presents the conclusions drawn from the findings and concludes with actionable recommendations. These recommendations encompass practical steps to address the identified issues and suggestions for further research to advance our understanding of the subject.

5.2 Summary of the Findings

5.2.1 Perception of Corruption Among Key Stakeholders

This study examined the perception of corruption among key stakeholders, including government officials, business leaders, and citizens, in the Tabora region. Respondents expressed a widespread perception of corruption among government officials in the region, with business transactions significantly affected by corrupt practices. The majority of respondents indicated that corruption undermines the credibility of public institutions, while a considerable number acknowledged its negative impact on resource allocation. Additionally, respondents observed corruption as a common practice in public service delivery and pointed out inadequacies in anti-corruption efforts. They strongly emphasized that corruption poses a significant obstacle to economic development and advocated addressing stakeholders' perceptions to foster a transparent

and accountable society. The composite mean of 3.83 suggests a large extent of perceived corruption overall.

5.2.2 Channels Through Which Corruption Affects Economic Development

The study sought to identify the specific channels through which corruption affects economic development in the Tabora region. The study found that to a moderate extent, inefficient allocation of public resources due to corrupt practices hampers economic development. Respondents also indicated that corruption in public procurement processes negatively impacts infrastructure development and public service delivery. Additionally, the research revealed that to a moderate extent, embezzlement and misappropriation of public funds by corrupt individuals hinder investment in key sectors of the economy. Similarly, to a moderate extent, respondents reported that the bribery and extortion of businesses by corrupt officials undermine the growth and competitiveness of the private sector. Furthermore, to a moderate extent, the study found that nepotism and favoritism in hiring and promotion practices due to corruption limit opportunities for skilled individuals and hinder human capital development. Lastly, the composite mean across all channels through which corruption affects economic development is 3.65, suggesting a moderate extent of perceived impact overall.

5.2.3 Strategies for Combating Corruption and Promoting Economic Development

This study also aimed to establish strategies for combating corruption and promoting economic development in the Tabora region. The study found that respondents acknowledged the importance of strengthening anti-corruption laws and regulations for combating corruption and promoting economic development to a moderate extent. Additionally, enhancing transparency and

accountability in government processes is crucial for addressing corruption and fostering economic development to a large extent. Respondents emphasized investing in training and capacity building of public officials to raise awareness about the detrimental effects of corruption for promoting economic development moderately. Participants stressed the vital role of promoting integrity among government officials and business leaders for combating corruption and driving economic development moderately. Moreover, encouraging citizen participation in decision-making processes contributes to effective anti-corruption measures and supports economic development moderately. Establishing independent anti-corruption bodies is a crucial strategy to combat corruption and foster economic development moderately. Participants highlighted the significance of international cooperation in addressing cross-border corruption challenges and promoting economic development to a large extent. Implementing effective whistleblower protection mechanisms encourages reporting of corruption and contributes to combating corruption and promoting economic development moderately. Fostering a business-friendly environment can curb corruption and stimulate economic development largely. Strengthening public awareness campaigns and education on the consequences of corruption mobilizes public support for anti-corruption initiatives and drives economic development significantly. The composite mean across all strategies for combating corruption and promoting economic development is 3.81, suggesting a moderate to large extent of perceived effectiveness overall.

5.3 Conclusions

This study assessed the effect of corruption on economic development in Tanzania, with a particular focus on the Tabora Regional Headquarters. The findings concluded that that corruption is widely and unequivocally perceived as a significant and pervasive problem among government officials,

while citizens consistently view it as a common and prevalent practice in public service delivery. This perception suggests that corruption is not merely an isolated or occasional occurrence but is considered a norm or routine behavior in the context of public service provision. Such a perception among citizens lead to decreased trust in government institutions and hinder the effective functioning of public service delivery systems.

The research concluded that corrupt practices, such as inefficient allocation of public resources, corruption in public procurement processes, and embezzlement of public funds, hinder economic development and undermine the credibility of public institutions. As a result, these corrupt practices collectively undermine economic growth and erode the trust and credibility of public institutions, impacting the overall well-being and progress of the region.

The study concluded that multifaceted strategies are necessary to combat corruption and promote economic development in the Tabora region. These strategies include enhancing transparency and accountability in government processes, investing in the training and capacity building of public officials, and promoting a culture of integrity and ethical behavior. Additionally, fostering a business-friendly environment, strengthening public awareness campaigns on the consequences of corruption, and establishing independent anti-corruption bodies were identified as crucial steps towards combating corruption and supporting economic development in the region. Implementing these measures will create a transparent and accountable society, fostering sustainable growth and prosperity for the region's citizens.

5.4 Policy Implication

The implications of this study hold significant importance for policymakers and stakeholders not only in the Tabora region but also across other regions in Tanzania. The study's findings shed light on the prevalent perception of corruption among government officials and citizens, underscoring the pressing need for comprehensive anti-corruption measures. Policymakers are urged to concentrate on bolstering transparency and accountability within government processes, which could entail the introduction of mechanisms for public oversight, disclosure of financial information, and transparent decision-making. Additionally, investing in the training and capacity building of public officials will empower them to resist corrupt practices and uphold ethical standards. Cultivating a culture of integrity and ethical behavior across both public and private sectors is vital to serve as a deterrent against corruption. Prioritizing the establishment of independent anti-corruption bodies with adequate resources and authority for impartial investigation and prosecution of corruption cases is also essential. Moreover, policymakers should work towards fostering a business-friendly environment with streamlined regulations and reduced bureaucratic hurdles to stimulate economic growth and discourage corrupt practices. Strengthening public awareness campaigns on the consequences of corruption can mobilize support for anti-corruption initiatives and encourage citizens to report corruption incidents. By effectively implementing these policies, the Tabora region and other regions in Tanzania can lay the foundation for a transparent and accountable society, ultimately fostering sustainable economic growth and prosperity for their citizens.

5.5 Recommendations

The study recommends the following:

- i. The study recommends that efforts should be made to conduct comprehensive perception surveys among key stakeholders, including government officials, business leaders, and citizens in the Tabora region. This will provide valuable insights into their views and attitudes towards corruption, helping to understand the prevailing perceptions and identify areas that require targeted intervention.
- ii. Also, the study recommends that policymakers and relevant authorities should focus on addressing the specific channels through which corruption affects economic development in the Tabora region. This includes tackling issues related to inefficient allocation of public resources, corruption in public procurement processes, embezzlement of public funds, bribery of businesses, and nepotism in hiring and promotion practices. Developing targeted strategies to combat corruption in these areas can contribute significantly to fostering economic development.
- iii. Moreover, the study recommends that the establishment of independent and well-resourced anti-corruption bodies should be a priority in the Tabora region. Such bodies can play a crucial role in investigating and prosecuting corruption cases effectively. Additionally, fostering a culture of integrity, transparency, and ethical behavior among government officials and business leaders should be encouraged through training and awareness programs. Furthermore, public awareness campaigns highlighting the negative consequences of corruption and the importance of transparency and accountability in governance should be initiated to mobilize public support for anti-corruption initiatives and promote economic development in the region.

5.6 Recommendations for Further Studies

This study successfully assessed the effect of corruption on economic development in Tanzania, with a particular focus on the Tabora Regional Headquarters. To further strengthen and expand knowledge in this area, it is recommended that future research consider the following areas. Firstly, conducting studies in other regions, both more advanced and less advanced than Tabora, would provide a comprehensive understanding of the impact of corruption on economic development nationwide. Similarly, including a diverse range of participants, such as citizens, non-citizens, and government officials, in future research would offer a broader perspective on the issue. Additionally, to complement the questionnaire and interview instruments used in this study, researchers may explore the use of observation and focus group discussions to triangulate findings on the effect of corruption on economic development in Tanzania.

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Appendices

Appendix I: Letter for Research Questionnaire

Dear Respondents,

My name **Mwanaidi Kabaka**, and I am a Masters of Arts in Peace and Security Studies at the Institute of Accountancy Arusha. As part of the completion of my master's program, I am conducting research on Assessing the effect of corruption on economic development in Tanzania: A Case of Tabora Regional Headquarters.

I kindly request your assistance in answering the questions that follow by selecting the appropriate option. Your answers will help me in my research, and I assure you that all information you provide will be kept strictly confidential and used solely for academic purposes.

Please feel free to answer all questions objectively and freely. Your participation in this study is greatly appreciated and valuable.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Sincerely,

Mwanaidi Kabaka.

Appendix II: Research Questionnaire

PART ONE: DEMOGRAPHIC INFORMATION

(Tick the appropriate answer)

Gender	Male	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Female	<input type="checkbox"/>
Age	18-24 Years	<input type="checkbox"/>
	25-34 Years	<input type="checkbox"/>
	35-44 Years	<input type="checkbox"/>
	45 Years and above	<input type="checkbox"/>
Education Level	Certificate	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Diploma	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Bachelor Degree	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Postgraduate	<input type="checkbox"/>
Occupation	Employed	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Not Employed	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Self Employed	<input type="checkbox"/>
Previous Experience with Corruption	No	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Rather Not to Say	<input type="checkbox"/>

PART TWO: ACADEMIC RESEARCH QUESTIONS (Tick the appropriate answer)

- i. To assess the perception of corruption among key stakeholders, including government officials, business leaders, and citizens, in the Tabora region.
- ii. To identify the specific channels through which corruption affects economic development in the Tabora region.
- iii. To establish strategies for combating corruption and promoting economic development in the Tabora region.

1=No Extent; 2= Little Extent; 3=Neutral; 4=Agree 5= Strongly Agree

Perception of corruption	Options				
	1	2	3	4	5
Corruption is a widespread problem among government officials in the region.					
The presence of corruption undermines the credibility and effectiveness of public institutions in the region.					
Business transactions in the region are significantly affected by corrupt practices.					
Corruption hinders fair competition and distorts market dynamics in the region.					
The prevalence of corruption leads to misallocation of resources.					
Citizens perceive corruption as a common practice in public service delivery.					
Corruption erodes public trust in institutions in the region.					
Efforts to combat corruption in region have been inadequate.					
The existence of corruption poses a significant obstacle to economic development.					
The perception of corruption among key stakeholders needs to be addressed to foster a transparent and accountable society.					
Channels of corruption					
Inefficient allocation of public resources due to corrupt practices hampers economic development					
Corruption in public procurement processes negatively impacts infrastructure development and public service delivery					
Embezzlement and misappropriation of public funds by corrupt individuals hinder investment in key sectors of the economy.					
The bribery and extortion of businesses by corrupt officials undermine the growth and competitiveness of the private sector					
Nepotism and favoritism in hiring and promotion practices due to corruption limit opportunities for skilled individuals and hinder human capital development					
Corruption leads to a lack of transparency and accountability in governance, impeding the implementation of effective policies for economic development					
The diversion of funds meant for public infrastructure projects to personal bank accounts hampers the progress of infrastructure development					
Illicit financial flows and money laundering resulting from corrupt practices drain resources from the region's economy, hindering its growth and development.					
The influence of corruption in the judiciary and law enforcement agencies undermines the rule of law and investor confidence					
Corruption in land administration and property rights leads to insecure land tenure, discouraging investments and inhibiting economic development					

Strategies for combating corruption				
Strengthening anti-corruption laws and regulations is essential for combating corruption and promoting economic development				
Enhancing transparency and accountability in government processes is crucial for effectively addressing corruption and fostering economic development				
Investing in the training and capacity building of public officials to raise awareness about the detrimental effects of corruption is necessary for promoting economic development				
Promoting a culture of integrity and ethical behavior among government officials and business leaders is vital for combating corruption and driving economic development				
Encouraging citizen participation and engagement in decision-making processes can contribute to the effective implementation of anti-corruption measures and support economic development				
Establishing independent anti-corruption bodies with sufficient resources and authority is a crucial strategy for combating corruption and fostering economic development				
Encouraging international cooperation and collaboration in anti-corruption efforts can help to address cross-border corruption challenges and promote economic development				
Implementing effective whistleblower protection mechanisms can encourage individuals to report corruption and contribute to the overall efforts of combating corruption and promoting economic development				
Fostering a business-friendly environment with clear regulations, simplified procedures, and reduced bureaucratic hurdles can contribute to curbing corruption and stimulating economic development				
Strengthening public awareness campaigns and education programs on the negative consequences of corruption can help to mobilize public support for anti-corruption initiatives and drive economic development				

THANK YOU FOR YOUR TIME

Appendix III: Interview Guide

Perception of corruption among key stakeholders in the Tabora region

1. How would you describe the level of corruption among government officials/business leaders/citizens?
2. Can you provide examples of corrupt practices that you have personally witnessed or experienced?
3. How do you think corruption affects the overall development and progress of the Tabora region?
4. What measures do you believe are necessary to address and reduce corruption?

Channels through which corruption affects economic development in the Tabora region:

1. How does corruption in public procurement processes impact economic development in the Tabora region?
2. In your view, how does corruption affect the competitiveness and productivity of businesses in the Tabora region?
3. What are some examples of sectors or industries that are particularly vulnerable to corruption and how does it impede their development?
4. How does corruption in the allocation and management of public resources affect infrastructure development and public service delivery in the Tabora region?

Strategies for combating corruption and promoting economic development in the Tabora region

1. What measures do you believe are effective in combating corruption and promoting transparency and accountability in the Tabora region?
2. How can the government, private sector, and civil society work together to tackle corruption and foster economic development in the Tabora region?

3. Are there any successful initiatives or practices from other regions or countries that can be adapted to combat corruption in the Tabora region?
4. What policies or reforms do you think should be implemented to create a more conducive environment for business and investment while minimizing corruption risks in the Tabora region?

Appendix V: Research Data Collection Letter



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Ref. No.: MA-PSS/0031/2021

3rd July 2023

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.....
P.O.BOX.....
.....

Dear Sir/Madam,

RE : REQUEST FOR DATA COLLECTION

The purpose of this letter is to introduce to you Ms. Mwanaldi Kabaka who is our student pursuing Masters of Peace and Security with registration (MA-PSS/0031/2021). Currently, the aforementioned student is conducting a study on "ASSESSING THE EFFECT OF CORRUPTION ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT IN TANZANIA: A CASE OF Tabora REGIONAL HEADQUARTERS". We would like to highlight here that this study is part of the requirement for the award of the above mentioned programme of study.

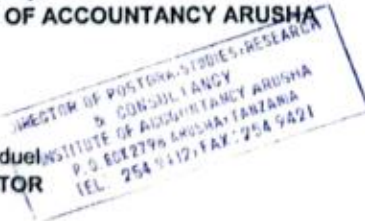
We therefore request you to extend to the above-mentioned student of our Institute any help that may facilitate her to achieve study objectives. We further request permission for her to see and talk to the staff of your Institution in connection with her study. The period for this request is granted from July to the end of September 2023.

Thank you for your continuing support.

Yours Sincerely,

INSTITUTE OF ACCOUNTANCY ARUSHA


Michael Abduel
FOR: RECTOR



All Communications to be addressed to the Rector