Chapter 6

E–Governance and Corruption Impasse in Nigeria:
A Developmental Expedition Synopsis

Opeyemi Idowu Aluko
University of Ilorin, Nigeria

Gabriel Temitope Aderinola
University of Ilorin, Nigeria

ABSTRACT

E-governance is a technological innovation that brings governance to the fore of integrity and accountability. It requires high technological commitment so as to bring the government closer to the people. Corruption on the other hand is a bane to growth and development in any country. E-governance is a corrective measure to corruption which prevents government officials from shady activities due to its transparency nature. The connection between e-governance and corruption is analyzed in this chapter, and Nigeria is selected as a case study in developing countries. The chapter concludes on the premise that e-governance reduces the strength of corruption in any country and more investment is needed to enhance this development.

INTRODUCTION

E-government is a concept that has its etiology in the nineteen century. It refers to the use of information and communication technology (ICT) to promote more efficient and cost effective government, facilitate more convenient government services, allow

greater government access to information, and make government more accountable to the citizens. E-government is the use of ICT by government agencies to transform relations with citizens (government to citizen) (G2C), businesses (government to business) (G2B), government organizations (government to government) (G2G) and employees (government to employee) (G2E). ICTs have a lot of advantages of improving service delivery to citizens, interacting with business and industry, increasing public accessibility to information, fostering more efficient government management, increasing transparency and accountability and eventually reducing corruption and costs of governance.

Corruption on the other hand is a vice that delimitate the efficiency and effectiveness of service delivery within the public or private sector. It has the tendency to destroy or shut down the whole government and private sector existence to becoming a state of anarchy. ICT can reduce corruption by promoting good governance, strengthening reform initiatives, reducing the potential for corrupt behavior, strengthening relations between government employees and citizens, allowing tracking activities, monitoring and controlling behavior of government employees by the citizens, enhancing the effectiveness of internal control and management of corrupt behavior by promoting government transparency and accountability (Bhatnagar, 2003; Shim & Eom, 2008; Anderson, 2009; Mauro, 1997). In fact, Lupu and Lazar (2015) found that a 1% increase in the use of e-government reduces corruption by over 6.7% in the EU/ non EU countries.

Corruption has been a major issue in Nigeria because of the negative impact on the people, government and drawbacks on economic development and national progress (Emechele, 2009; Ajie & Wokekoro, 2012). It pervades all facets of the country's public and private sector (Inokoba & Ibegu, 2011) with devastating consequences of poverty, decaying infrastructures, unemployment, poor budget implementation and performance, low standard of living (Odo, 2015). Corruption has seriously affected every sector of the economy and hampered sustainable development in education, health, employment, power and electricity generation, transportation, legislature, judiciary, civil service, politics, electoral process and other major sectors of the economy (Ezigbo, 2006). It has hindered economic growth and development (Cookey, 2005), foreign direct investment (Cooker, Ugwu & Adams, 2012) and resulted in poor human development indices and massive poverty of Nigerians (Action Aid, 2015). Corruption increases the rate of injustice, disregards rule of law and destabilizes society by creating social tensions, increases the crime rate, violence and terrorism. It also acts as a barrier to advancing any innovations (OECD, 2010). Ribadu, (2007) argued that corruption is Nigeria's worst problem responsible for its woes, instability in the Niger Delta, debt overhang, barrier to democratic elections and impediment to flow of foreign direct investment (FDI). In fact, the misfortune and woes of Nigeria has been linked to the pervasive, endemic corruption. Nigeria

19 more pages are available in the full version of this document, which may be purchased using the "Add to Cart" button on the publisher's webpage: www.igi-global.com/chapter/e-governance-and-corruption-impasse-in-nigeria/210941

Related Content

Cost Effective for Erlang Traffic of Mobile Learning Over the Clouds

Khaing Sandar Htun (2014). *International Journal of E-Services and Mobile Applications (pp. 1-11).*

www.irma-international.org/article/cost-effective-for-erlang-traffic-of-mobile-learning-over-the-clouds/115861

Strategic Marketing: Models and Plans

Noel Dohertyand F. Victor Lu (2012). *Service Science Research, Strategy and Innovation: Dynamic Knowledge Management Methods (pp. 417-427).*

www.irma-international.org/chapter/strategic-marketing-models-plans/61888

The WAVE Platform: Utilising Argument Visualisation, Social Networking and Web 2.0 Technologies for eParticipation

Deirdre Lee, Yojana Priya Menda, Vassilios Peristerasand David Price (2013). *Mobile Opportunities and Applications for E-Service Innovations (pp. 267-282).*

www.irma-international.org/chapter/wave-platform-utilising-argument-visualisation/73097

Ensemble Feature Selection for the Recognition of Human Activities and Postural Transitions on Smartphones

Elangovan Ramanujam, S. Padmavathi, L. Amreesh Baskarand P. Niwin (2021). *International Journal of Service Science, Management, Engineering, and Technology (pp. 80-101).*

www.irma-international.org/article/ensemble-feature-selection-for-the-recognition-of-human-activities-and-postural-transitions-on-smartphones/284873

Value-Oriented Specification of Service Systems: Modeling the Contribution Perspective of Enterprise Networks

João Pombinho, David Aveiroand José Tribolet (2015). *International Journal of Information Systems in the Service Sector (pp. 60-81).*

www.irma-international.org/article/value-oriented-specification-of-service-systems/121616