

PRESS RELEASE

Suva, Fiji

11 July 2013

For immediate Release

Study finds Fijian businesses and political parties most corrupt

The Global Corruption Barometer (GCB) 2013, a study by Transparency International, the global coalition fighting against corruption, has established that people think businesses and political parties are the most corrupt in Fiji.

The GCB 2013 reflects the responses of 114, 270 people in 107 countries. It was released on the 9th of July in Berlin, Germany.

Fiji's section of the study involved 1000 Fijians who were interviewed in an independent survey using Computer Assisted Telephone Interviewing (CATI) method between September 2012 and March 2013.

55 per cent of Fijians surveyed responded that businesses and private sector were the most corrupt, followed by political parties at 50 per cent.

39 per cent of Fijians placed public officials and civil servants as the third highest in terms of corruption in Fiji.

Transparency International (TI) Fiji's Chairman, Apisalome Tudreu said the reactions are by and large not unexpected but the challenge in Fiji is, what corruption really means to people. It tends to be a whole range of whatever seems dishonest.

"There are in fact around 12 pieces of legislation in the law relating to corruption but it is targeted as a range of offences,"

"Fiji is a signatory to the United Nation Convention against Corruption (UNCAC). We have our own 2007 promulgation on the Fiji Independent Commission against Corruption (FICAC). We must take the GCB 2013 seriously,"

Two surveys conducted recently by TI Fiji produced results which are consistent with the GCB 2013 findings. The first local survey is a Youth Integrity Survey of 1000 young people on their

perception of corruption and integrity. The second study is on TI Fiji's Advocacy and Legal Advice Centre (ALAC) and the corruption landscape in Fiji.

"It is for these integrity pillars in the public and private sectors, especially important that at this time of national transition to parliamentary democracy, to properly assert their integrity rating to the public,"

Other perceptions comprising the findings from the GCB 2013 study pertaining Fiji are:

45 per cent of respondents in Fiji felt that the police were corrupt.

35 per cent felt that parliament / legislature was corrupt.

30 per cent of Fijians surveyed said the judiciary was corrupt.

The education system, NGOs, religious bodies, media, medical health services, and the military were corrupt, according to between 16 and 30 percent of the people surveyed.

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