

# How can professional communities of planners in South Africa and Zambia drive integrity?

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# 01

# Urbanizing Corruption

Why we need to look more closely at cities



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City of Johannesburg's R280-million real estate deal 'crime scene'



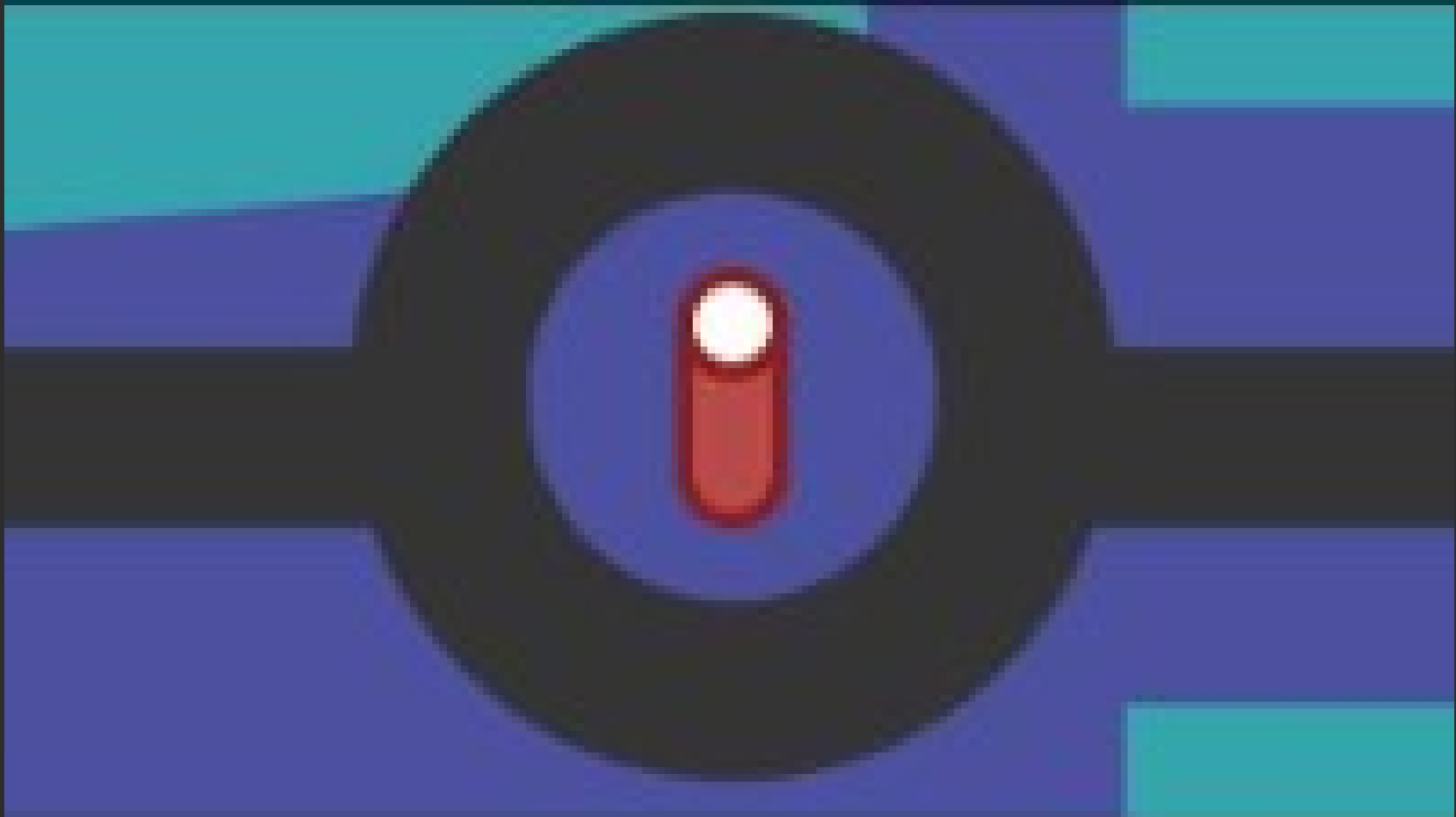
# Urban land and property is the biggest store of value worldwide

- Urban land is eight times the value of agricultural land
- 70% of all infrastructure spending occurs in urban areas
- Africa is fastest urbanising region, very high stakes

# Why integrity? Why planners?

- Growing evidence that in contexts where informality prevails, more controls breed more corruption
- Focus on professions as a promising inroad for a multi-pronged approach to urban corruption





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# 02

# Approaching Cities of Integrity

Selected Research Findings from  
South Africa and Zambia



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## Methodological approach

### Online Survey

**Zambia**  
n=98

**South Africa**  
n=113

### Interviews and Focus Groups

**Zambia**

53 interviews and  
two focus groups

**South Africa**

26 interviews and  
one focus group

### Qualitative Action Experiment

**Lusaka, 8<sup>th</sup> – 10<sup>th</sup>  
Oct 2019**

39 participants

Follow-up: March  
2021

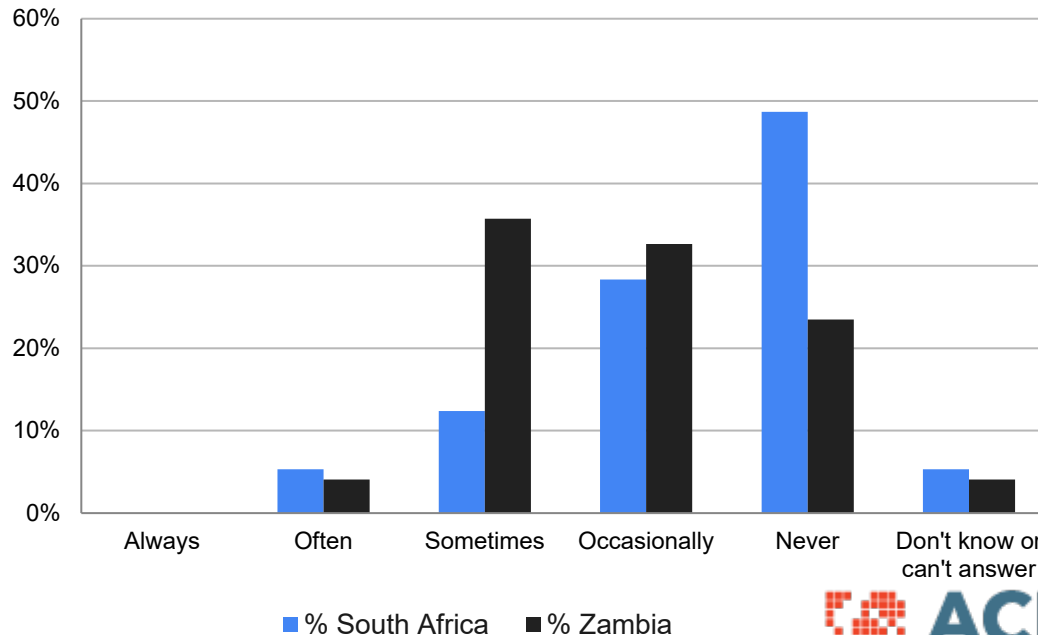


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# Corruption in Planning – A few snapshots from South Africa and Zambia

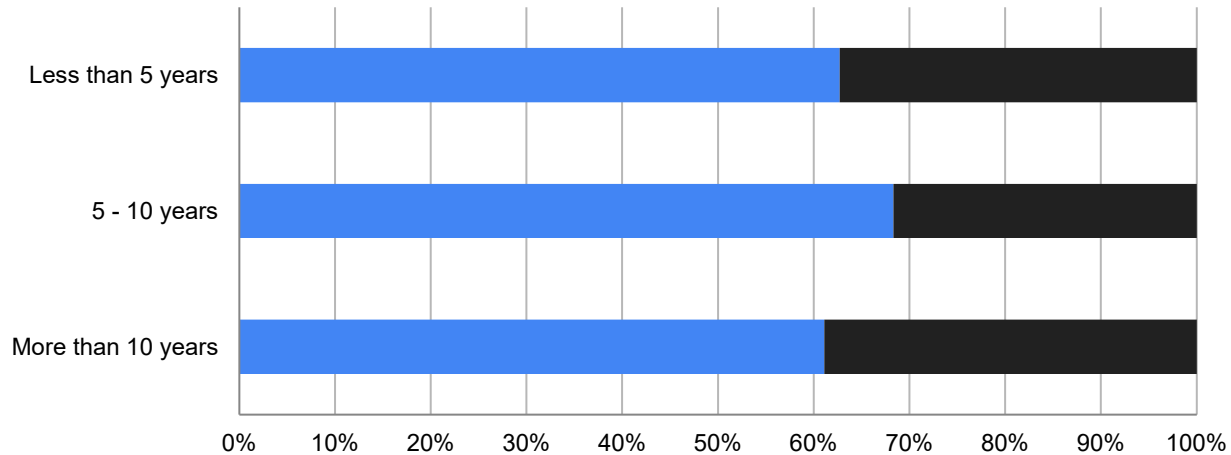
How often at work are you asked to ignore or violate rules, policies, or procedures in order to achieve a particular planning outcome? (% Country Comparison)





# Corruption in Planning – A few snapshots from South Africa and Zambia

How often at work are public contracting and procurement rules not properly followed or enforced for the benefit of particular individuals or private parties? (by years of service)



■ At least occasionally ■ Never

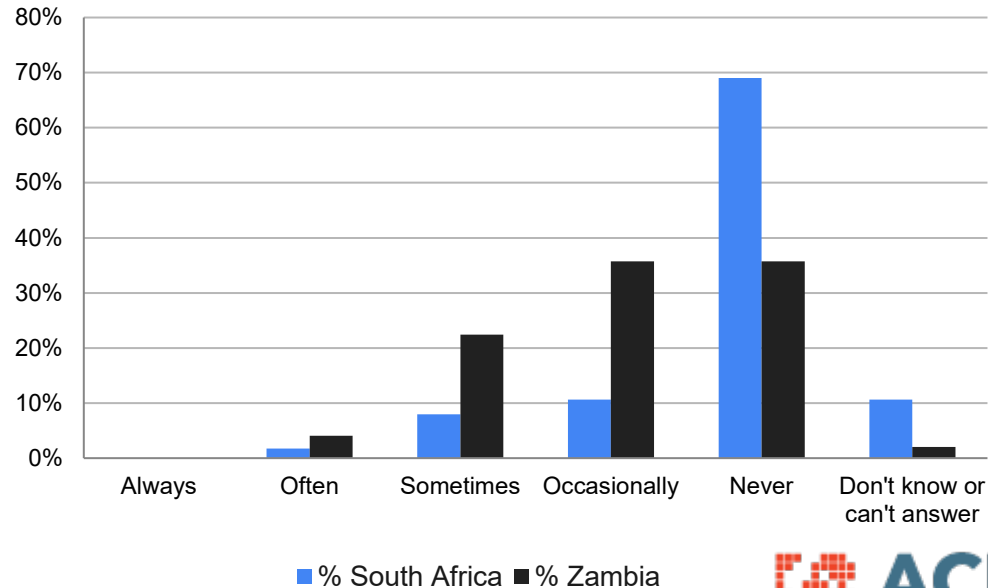


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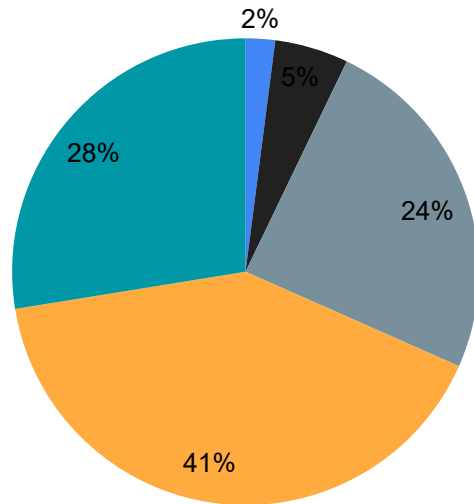
# Corruption in Planning – A few snapshots from South Africa and Zambia

How often at work do developers or other interested parties offer you money or other favours illicitly in return for taking a particular action in their favour (e.g. granting or denying an application)?



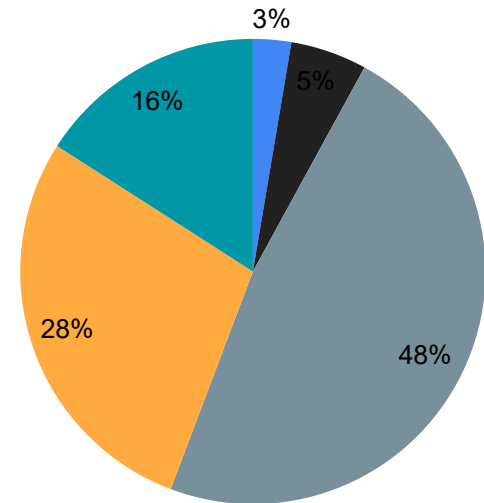
# Corruption in Planning – A few snapshots from South Africa and Zambia

In your opinion and context, over the past year, the level of corruption in urban development has:



Zambia

- Decreased a lot
- Decreased somewhat
- Stayed the same
- Increased somewhat
- Increased a lot



South Africa



# Engaging Zambian Planners through a Qualitative Action Experiment

## Goals

- Creating awareness about the scale, scope and consequences of corruption
- Raising awareness of existing resources and complaints procedures
- Raising professional pride, emphasizing the public interest-orientation
- Catalyse action towards behaviour change, broader peer involvement and institutional support



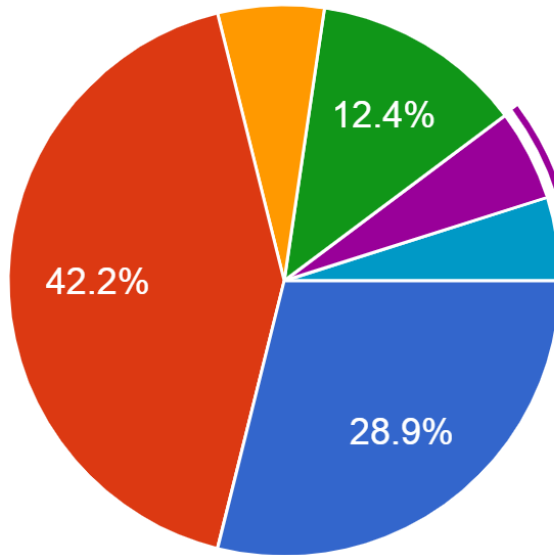
# Engaging Zambian Planners through a Qualitative Action Experiment

## Principles

- Convey a positive, practical notion of integrity and how to realize it
  - Take individual experience, social dynamics and professional values seriously by sharing lived tactics of integrity
  - Focus on jointly exploring practical benefits (e.g. building trust, rewarding participation, providing follow up and support)
- Building a community of practice around integrity



## Are Zambia planners likely to report corrupt action on land and planning related corruption? (before QAE)



- Very unlikely
- Unlikely
- Neither unlikely nor likely
- Somewhat likely
- Very likely
- Don't know or can't answer

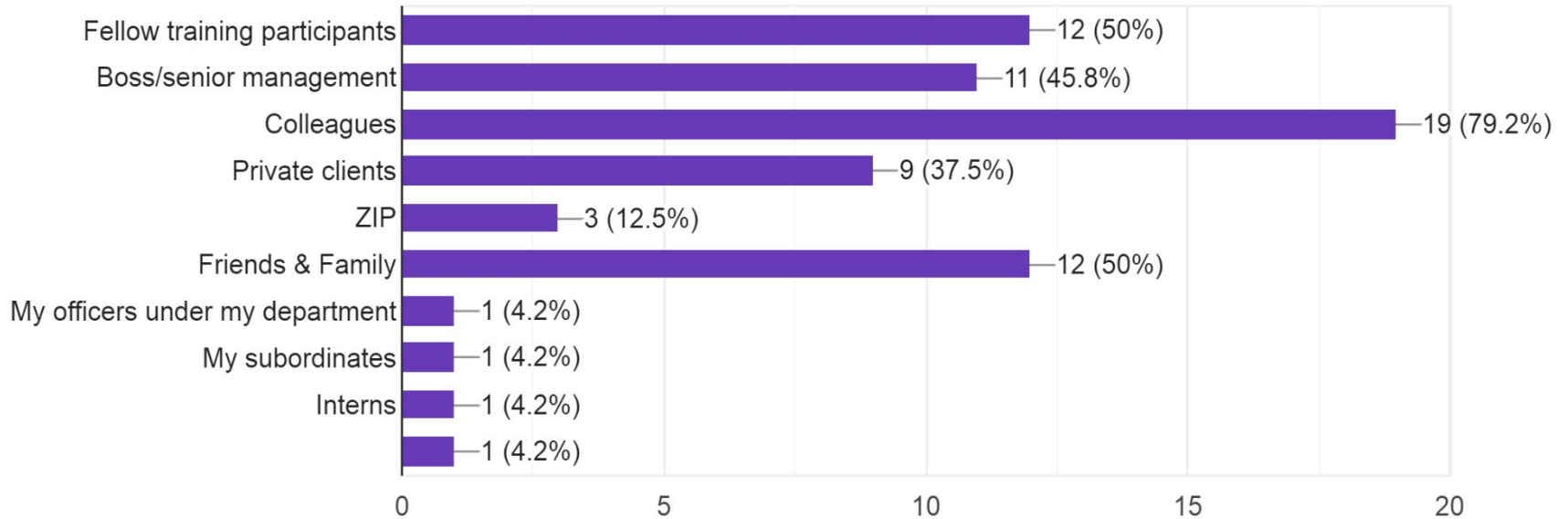


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## A year post-QAE: Sharing the burden with peers

*With whom have you spoken about the training since it took place?*



From: Endline Survey, QAE Follow-Up April 2021



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# 03

## Where next?

- We have learned a lot about how planners in South Africa and Zambia experience corruption, how they perceive their professional peers in this context and how they try to act on their professional and personal sense of service.
- From our data and particularly the QAE, we have some indication that building a network of integrity champions within the planning profession can add value to tackling the urban corruption problem...
- ...alongside better enforcement of disciplinary mechanisms by the professional bodies
- We feel quite confident that we have developed a unique training course on urban corruption that could be tailored to and adapted for other countries and other urban development professions... and in which the video play a key role!
- Our work is informing the finalization and implementation of the Code of Practice for Planners in Zambia



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