



**TRANSPARENCY
INTERNATIONAL
ZIMBABWE**
the coalition against corruption



TI Z PUSHES FOR STRONGER ANTI-CORRUPTION INVESTIGATIONS

Transparency International Zimbabwe recently convened a high-level capacity-building workshop aimed at sharpening the skills of key anti-corruption players. The workshop brought together institutions at the heart of Zimbabwe's fight against corruption: **the National Prosecuting Authority (NPA), Zimbabwe Anti-Corruption Commission (ZACC), Police Anti-Corruption Unit (PACU), Zimbabwe Revenue Authority (ZIMRA), the Attorney General's Office, the Ministry of Justice, the Zimbabwe Human Rights Commission (ZHRC), and Parliament.**

Over several sessions, participants dug into the core of corruption investigations from handling digital evidence to asset recovery. The training focused on practical investigative tools and legal frameworks necessary for securing solid cases in court.

Participants walked through digital forensics, the importance of maintaining a clean chain of custody, and how to conduct documentary analysis that stands up in court. Participants also explored financial intelligence tools and cross-border mechanisms like Mutual Legal Assistance used in tracing and recovering stolen assets.

The country's core corruption laws were broken down. Bribery, still referred to as the "original sin" of corruption, was unpacked in terms of its historical development from the 1913 Prevention of Corruption Ordinance to its current form under Section 170(1) of the Criminal Law Code.

Another key focus was criminal abuse of duty by public officers—a more modern corruption offence introduced in 1985 to capture cases where officials use their position for personal or third-party gain without necessarily taking bribes.

The revised Section 174 now holds public officers criminally liable for actions or omissions that result in unlawful benefit or prejudice.

As investigations increasingly involve digital evidence, the workshop tackled legal provisions like Section 379A of the Criminal Procedure and Evidence Act, which governs search and seizure.

Investigators were reminded of the legal steps required to obtain warrants and how failure to preserve digital evidence can lead to acquittals or dismissal of cases.





National Prosecuting Authority (NPA), Zimbabwe Anti-Corruption Commission (ZACC), Police Anti-Corruption Unit (PACU), Zimbabwe Revenue Authority (ZIMRA), the Attorney General's Office, the Ministry of Justice, the Zimbabwe Human Rights Commission (ZHRC), and Parliament officials undergoing a capacity building workshop organised by Transparency International Zimbabwe

To guide admissibility in court, Section 379E(2) of the CP&E Act was highlighted. Courts now assess digital evidence based on reliability, integrity, origin verification, and how well it was preserved.

A strong message emerged: no matter how compelling the evidence, it must be collected and processed lawfully. From independent verification to audit trails and respect for privacy rights, every step matters.

The workshop closed with a call for stronger collaboration across agencies. Participants agreed that while tools and laws are critical, coordination will drive results in the fight against corruption.

