

ANTI-CORRUPTION ORGANISATION

May 2014 Report



Highlights

- AC hotline receives 38 calls this month
- Health Corruption hotline receives 22 calls this month
- Three (03) new case files opened this month
- A total of 200 AC brochures distributed and 300 AC posters pasted in Yaoundé

General

A total
hotline

rights

Three
mostly
Bribe

North

contract money before the funds could be to them for the execution of the contract. Investigations are being pursued in this case.

The case reported of bribery and corruption in execution of a court decision involving the payment of fine for abusive dismissal is also undergoing investigations. It is a decision by the Bertoua Appeal court from the court of

AC's intervention in the West Region led to the reimbursement of 1000 FCFA collected from a victim as bribe in order to establish a national identity card.

number of 38 calls were received through the AC phone with thirteen complaints on corruption and corruption assimilated abuses with one on human abuse.

(03) new case files were opened this month involving bribery and corruption.

was solicited from two contractors who won a government contract to renovate roads in the Far Region. They were asked to pay 2% each of the released

Another tactical intervention by AC-Cameroon led to the non-collection of bribe and return of the car papers of a victim who was held wrongfully by traffic police along the Douala- Bafoussam highway road.

the non-
upheld
first

instance which has not been fully executed since two years.

Also, the case of a secondary school proprietor and vice principal who collected money from students for the registration of the 2014 session of the General Certificate of Education Ordinary Levels examination but could not produce proof of registration is being investigated. This means one year of studies missed by the five students who are not currently writing this session of the examination. AC has written a letter to the Minister of Secondary Education decrying this act.

The health corruption hotline received 22 calls with 2 complaints relating to HIV/AIDS and one on malaria. AC's cases led to its involvement in one of the resolutions.

With regards to the collection of complaints against corruption, poster distribution and brochure distribution has been carried out to this effect. Posters were pasted and brochures distributed in corruption hotspots in the town of Yaounde and further the outskirts. Nkoa-bang, Nkolafamba and Nko-langa were some of the new areas reached out to this month.

AC was able to resolve the case of a victim who was illegally asked to pay 30,000 FCFA for HIV/AIDS pre-therapeutic tests instead of the normal amount ranging from 18,000 – 20,000 FCFA usually demanded at the Bertoua Regional Hospital. AC contacted the director of the hospital who helped stopped this malpractice.

collection of complaints brochure distribution and been the major activities effect. Posters were distributed in corruption Yaounde and further the Nkolafamba and Nko-new areas reached out to this

One jurist was interviewed for test but was not retained because questions on his availability and commitment were not clear.

Case follow-up this month continues with the old case of motor bike riders against the head of the Nkolbisson municipal storeroom still at the level of hearings in the high court. AC volunteers met with the motor bike riders in order to collect the witness forms filled by other witnesses.

Also, the case file opened last month on abusive dismissal, bribe, fraud and human rights abuses between FIPCAM (FABRIQUE CAMEROUNAISE DE PARQUET) employers and employees of the company is undergoing legal analysis and investigations.

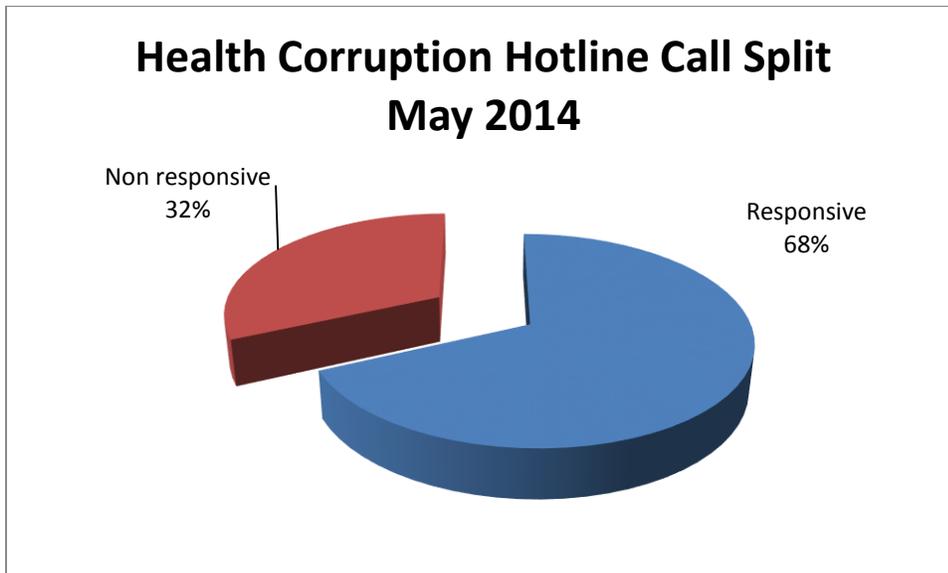
AC legal coordinator had a meeting with the MPECK, BELL and TSAMA law firm based in Mvog-mbi Yaoundé to initiate collaboration between the two structures. This collaboration once established will enable AC to benefit from the legal services of the law firm in the form of victim legal representation.

Activities relating to the health corruption project this month included a lot of planning and strategizing to enable an impressive kick-off of field work in the various regions. A work plan and implementation time table was produced for this reason as well as a result plan.

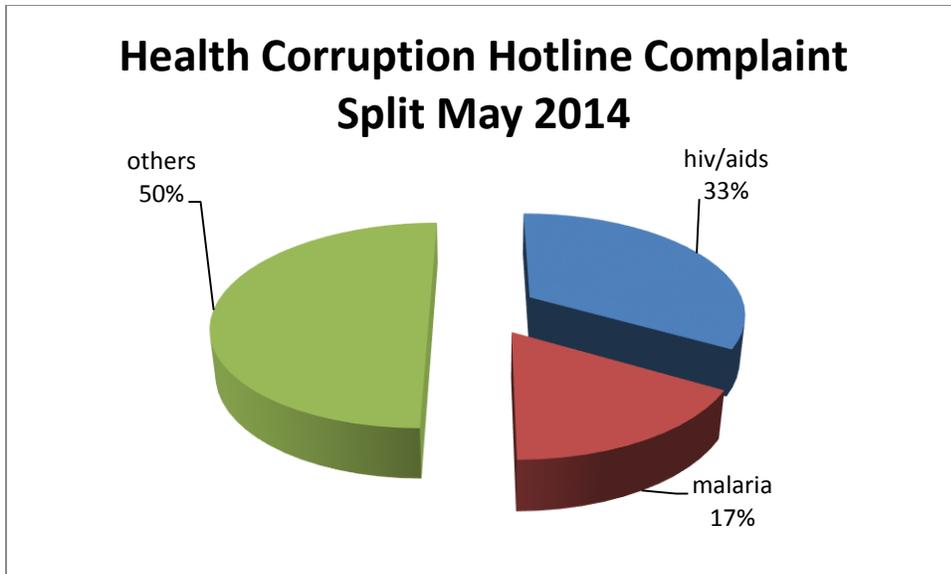
Meetings were held with most of the volunteers who were in Yaoundé to write the Higher Institute for Administration and Magistracy (ENAM) examinations (most volunteers with the health corruption project are students) in order to brief them on the work expected from them.

Health Corruption Hotline

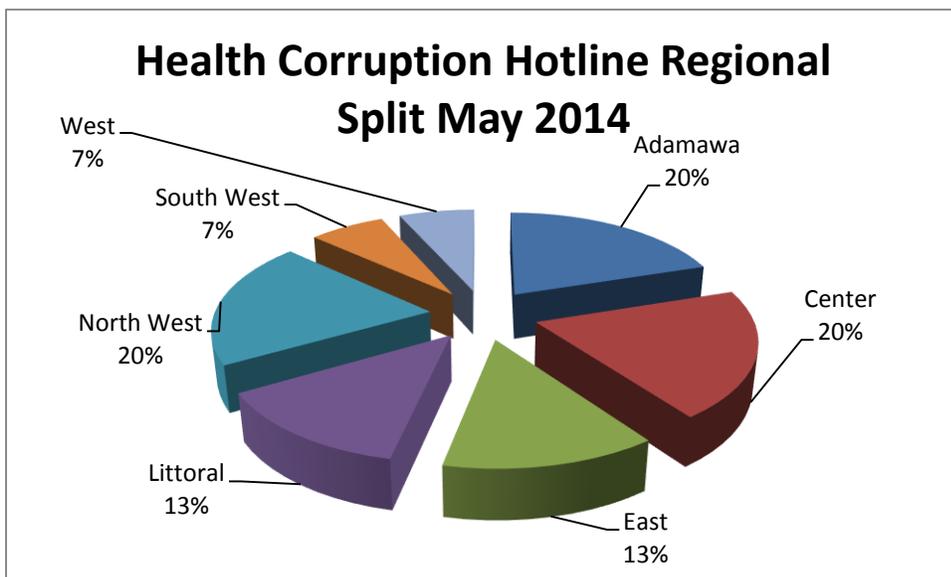
The health corruption hotline phone received 22 calls this month; 15 were responsive and 7 non responsive with two complaints regarding HIV/AIDS and one on Malaria as represented below.



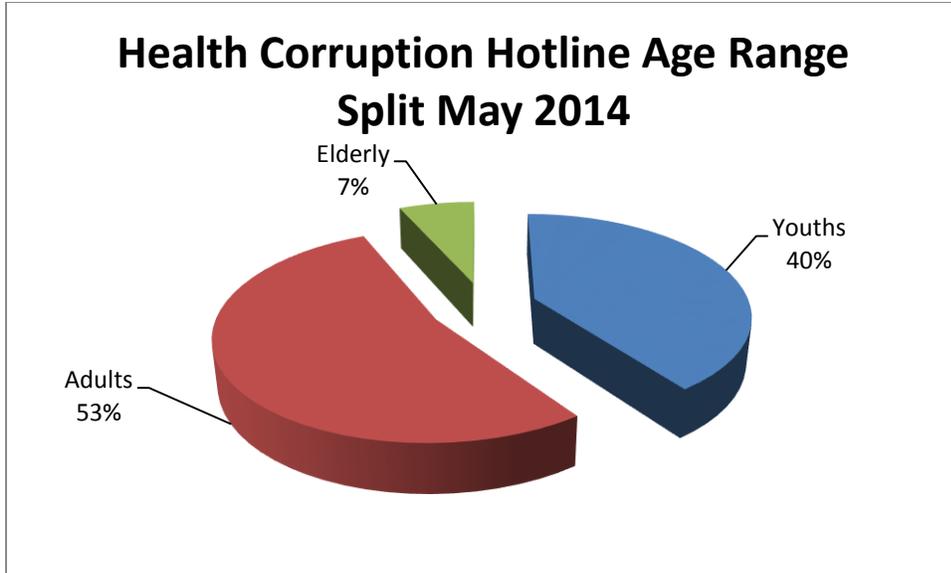
68% of calls that came in through the Health Corruption hotline were responsive while 32% of callers' numbers was either unavailable or did not respond to calls.



33% of complaints are related to HIV/AIDS treatment, 17% on malaria while other health non related complaints are at 50%.



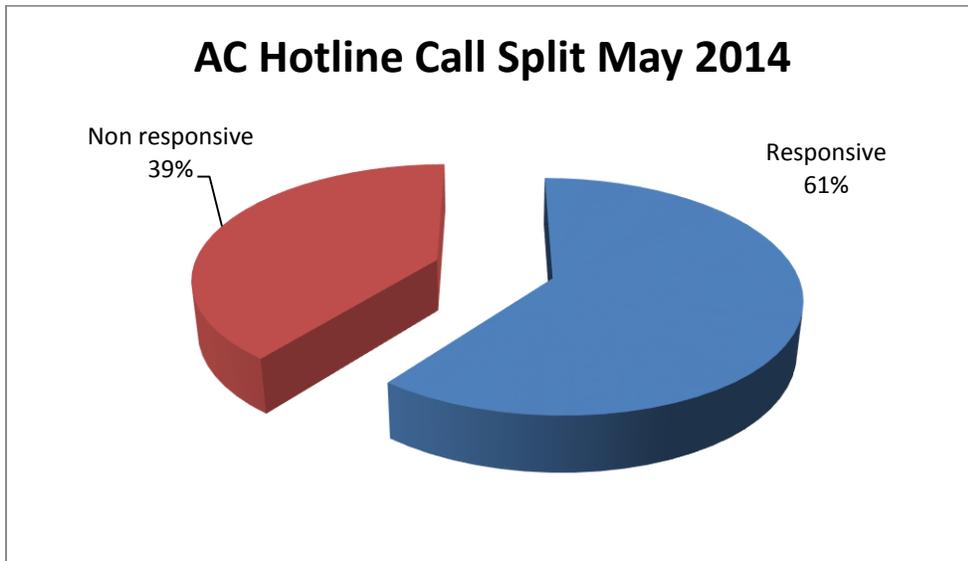
The Adamawa, Center and North West regions are at 20%, 13% of callers called from the Littoral and East regions while 13% of callers came from the South West and West regions.



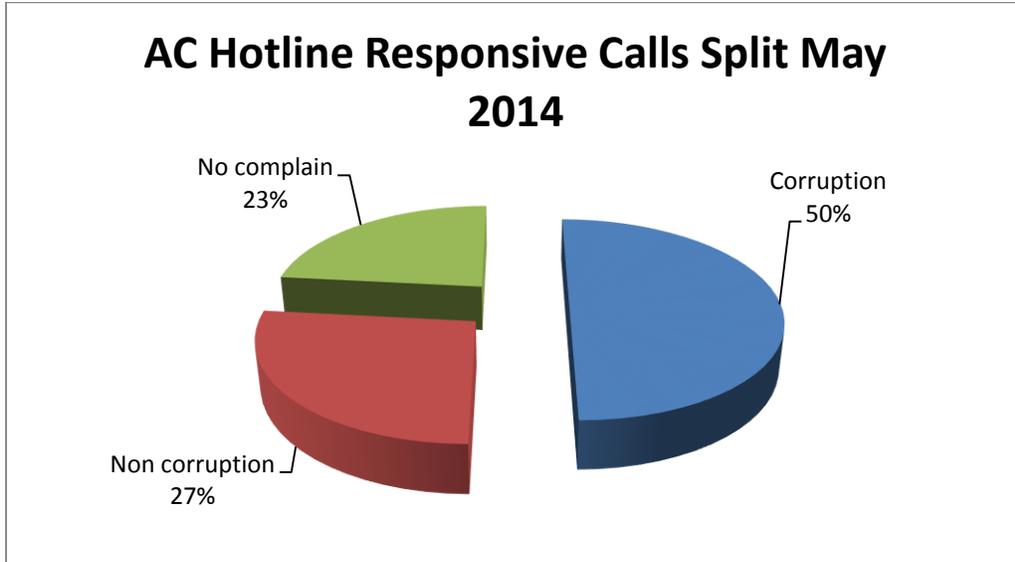
Adults make up 53% of health corruption calls, 40% are youths while the elderly make up just 7% of calls received.

AC Hotline Phone

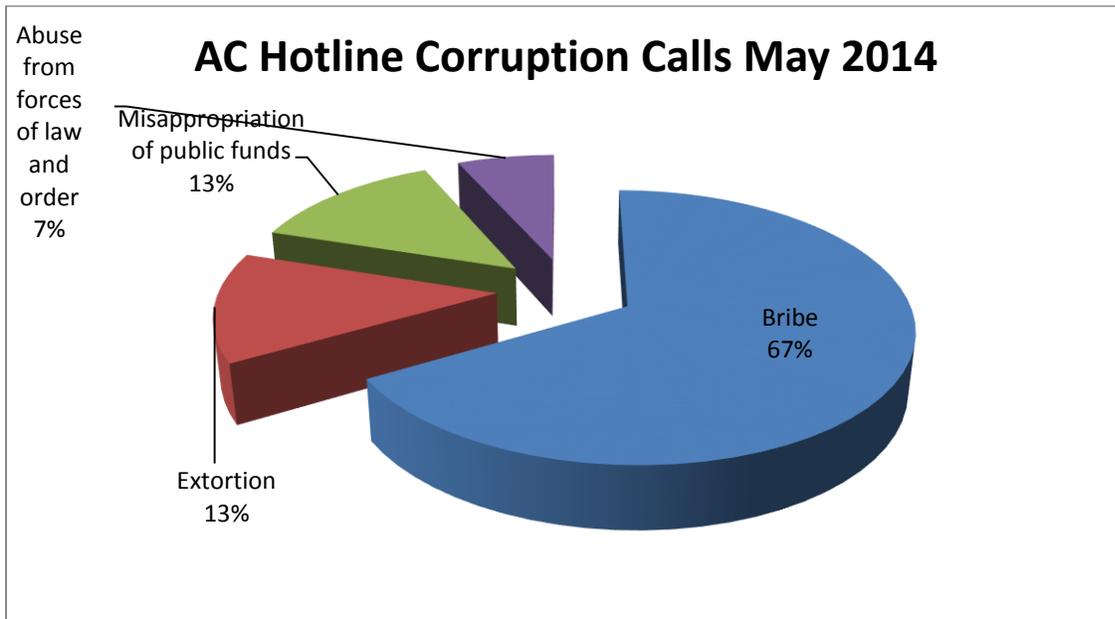
A total of 38 calls with 13 complaints against corruption were received through the AC hotline phone this month. These calls have been analyzed and represented below on charts as per category, per type of complaint, per region, gender and age range.



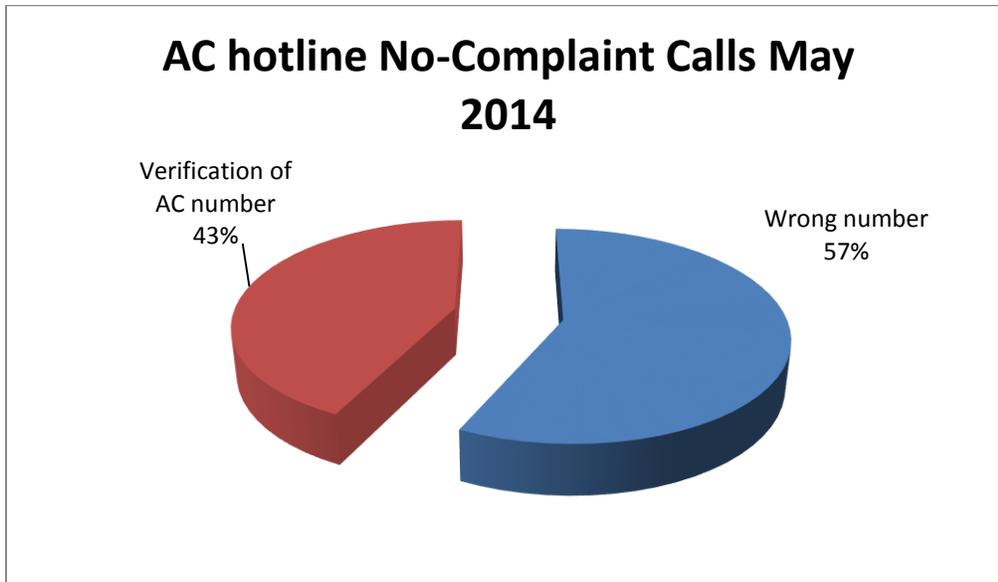
61% of calls were responsive this month of May 2014, and 39% of calls were either unavailable or did not respond to calls.



50% of complaints this month were corruption complaints while 27% were non-corruption complaints. 23% of callers claimed to be verifying the number or have dialed a wrong number which most often prove that they are afraid to get implicated denouncing a corruption complaint.

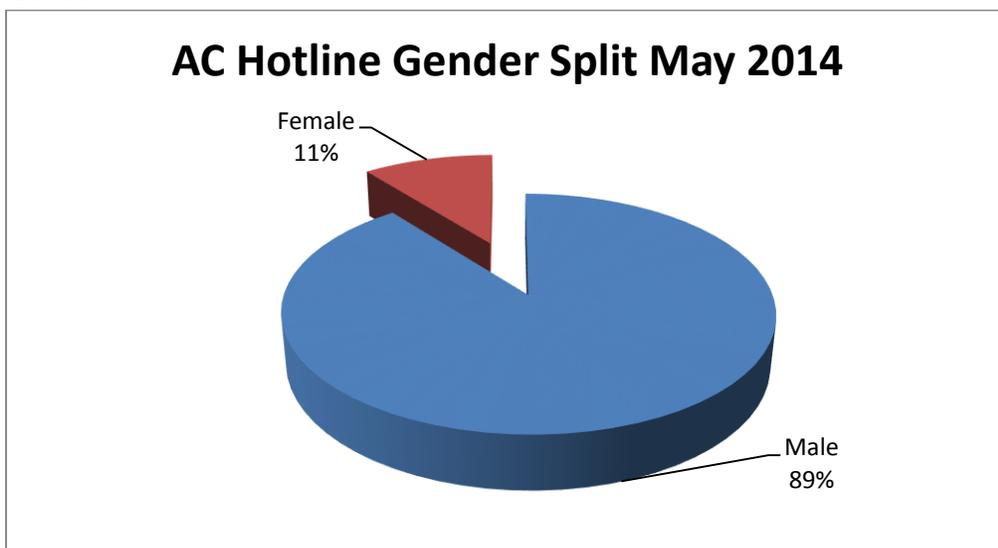


Bribery tops the list as usual with 67%, while Misappropriation of public funds and extortion follows with 13% each. Complaints relating to abuses from forces of law and order which always comes second to bribery has dropped to 7% this month.



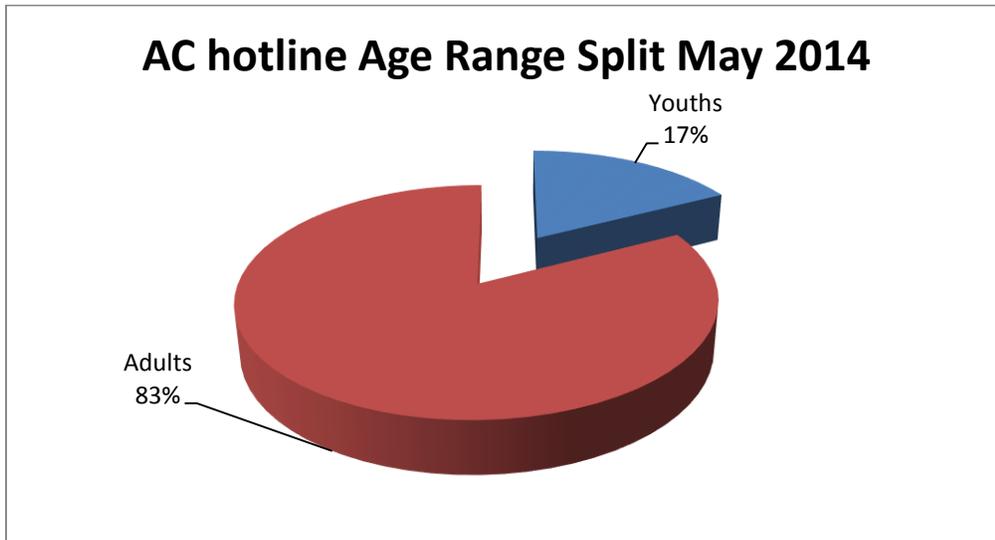
43% of non-corruption calls this month were mostly callers who wanted to test the functionality of the AC hotline number and 57% claimed to have dialed the wrong number. Most of such callers it has been noticed are those who have problems but are afraid to denounce the matter. Follow-up shows that most of them call back later with different numbers or their numbers to report a matter and act like they are calling for the first time.

Gender



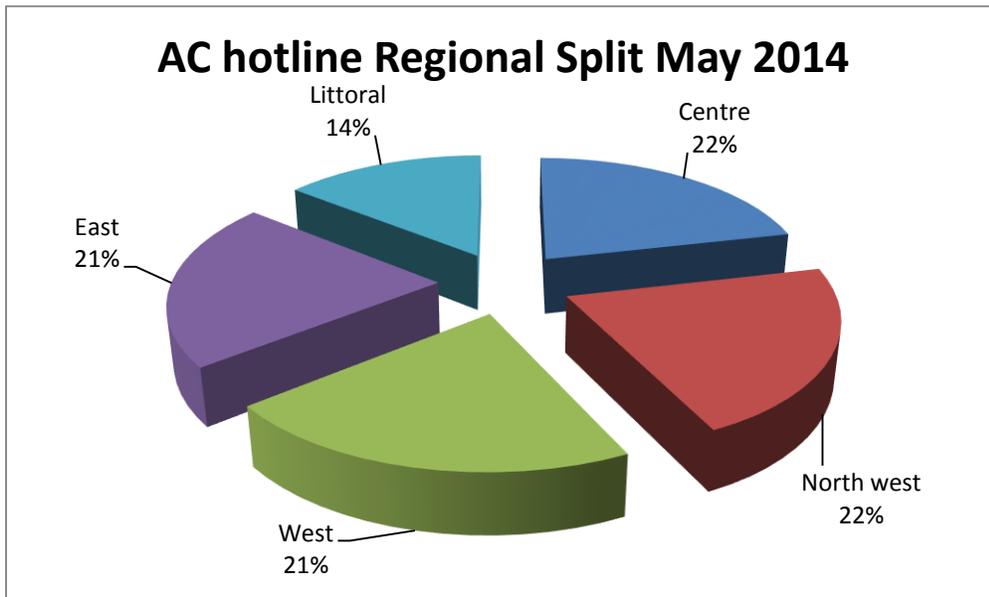
Just 11% of women participated in calls this month even with all the efforts made by AC to improve female participation. Brochures were distributed to more women this month than men yet 71% of the male folk participated in calling with denunciations.

Age range of callers



This month of May did not register any call from the aged group (55 and above) while the adult age range (31-55) continue to top the list with 83% and youths (30 and below) follow with 29%

Regional Distribution of Calls



The centre and North West regions maintain their place as the most active regions with 22% each. The normally dormant West region follows with 21% (a real improvement) as the East region has 21%. The usually highly participative littoral region comes in with 14% this month.

Many regions were inactive this May 2014. The South West, South, Adamawa, North and Far North regions which are normally active remained dormant this month. Reasons as to why are explained by the fact that AC field work is concentrated around the regions closer to the center region.

Investigations

Investigations were carried out at SNI following a complaint received through the AC hotline phone on bribery. Two contractors working with the government were asked to pay 2% of the contract money as kickback before the funds to execute the contract could be released to them. AC's investigations under covered the fact that there is a deeper network of corruption existing when it comes to public contracts as contractors who win contracts are always asked to pay a percentage of the money won. The ministry of finance, public contracts and its regional departments are the most involved. Investigations are still ongoing in this case.

The case of five students against the school authorities of the Royal College of Technology (ROCOTECH) is currently under serious investigations. A student of ROCOTECH situated at the Obili junction in Yaoundé called to complain that they (five students) paid money for the registration of their General certificate of Education, Ordinary levels examination but have just discovered that they were not registered to sit for the examinations. AC's investigations showed that these students are suffering from an ensuing conflict between the founder of the school and the vice principal as the founder accuses the vice principal for running away with school fees while the vice principal in turn accuses the founder of owing him lots of money. AC also discovered that the founder of the school has been implicated in students' non registration for the General Certificate of Education O' levels in the past in another school he founded in Buea. Moreover, the school is not a registered institution with the Ministry of Secondary Education which is why AC wrote a letter to the Minister for a close monitoring of the school.

A case reported of the non-execution of decisions rendered by the Bertoua Appeal Court is being investigated though not a prima facie AC kind of case. A former employee of Spider Distribution SARL who was wrongfully dismissed on grounds of embezzling company funds for personal use was found not guilty by the court of first instance and a fine imposed to be paid to him. The company appealed the decision and at the Appeal court, the verdict was upheld but with the amount of fine reduced this time. The employee contacted AC claiming the decision has not been executed for years now because of corruption which AC intends to find out. Investigations are ongoing.

Investigations concerning the seizure of the car papers of a man along the Douala Bafoussam highway road on the grounds that it is expired proved otherwise. The car papers of the driver in question was stained with water though readable, the traffic policemen decided to say it was expired so they could extort money from the driver. AC called the police officer in question in a bit to reason out with him and he handed the car papers back to the complainant without receiving bribe.

Investigations also led to the reimbursement of a victim's money which was collected illegally for the renewal of a national identity card. He called from Bafoussam at a police station because he was asked to pay 3800 instead of 2800 (1800 FCFA for passport size photo and 1000 FCFA for the stamp) in order to renew his national identity card. AC contacted the commissioner in charge and she actually confirmed that he is supposed to pay 2800 FRS instead of 3800 FCFA. Since the money had been collected, he was reimbursed 1000 FCFA.

Legal follow-up

AC is closely monitoring the court hearing of the case opposing the motor bike riders to the head of the Nkolbisson municipal storeroom. It is a criminal case of 3 counts involving non-assistance to person in danger, lack of prove of identification and assault. The case was adjourned on the last court hearing of April 4th 2014 because of the absence of the plaintiff. AC met with the accused (motor bikers) to collect the witness forms filled by the other witnesses.

AC is also currently analyzing the FIPCAM case. It is a case of abusive dismissal, fraud, bribe and human rights abuse against FIPCAM deposited last month by former FIPCAM employees.

Management

One jurist was interviewed but not retained because of questions regarding his availability.

External relations

AC was approached by the representative of a law firm, the MPECK, BELL and TSAMA law firm based in Mvog-mbi Yaoundé in a bid to work out collaboration terms for the two structures. This law firm represented an AC victim in 2012 in a bribe case involving hawkers selling medicines in front the central hospital Yaounde. The victim called AC from the cell where he was locked up because bribe was solicited in order to set bail terms for his release. The victim was timely released when AC intervened with the lawyer from the law firm.

Finance

AC received funds this month from private donors

Amount in FCFA	Use	Details	Amount in USD
20,000	Hotline	38 calls received	\$40.0
25,000	HC hotline	22 calls received	\$50.0
18,500	Investigations	200 brochures distributed 300 posters pasted	\$37.0
281,300	Legal	5 cases followed-up	\$562.6
0	Media	No tv or radio programs	\$0.0
0	Management		\$0.0
0	Office		\$0.0
344,800	TOTAL EXPENDITURE MAY 2014		\$689.6

Donor financial report May 2014

Amount in FCFA	Donor	Month	Amount in USD
344,800	Private Donor	Used in May	\$689.6