

Review Form 1.7

Journal Name:	Asian Journal of Advanced Research and Reports
Manuscript Number:	Ms_AJARR_112883
Title of the Manuscript:	Corruption Menace in Building Construction Industry in Nigeria: Causes and Remedies
Type of the Article	

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PART 1: Review Comments

	Reviewer's comment	Author's comment (if agreed with reviewer, correct the manuscript and highlight that part in the manuscript. It is mandatory that authors should write his/her feedback here)
<p>Compulsory REVISION comments</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Is the manuscript important for scientific community? (Please write few sentences on this manuscript) 2. Is the title of the article suitable? (If not please suggest an alternative title) 3. Is the abstract of the article comprehensive? 4. Are subsections and structure of the manuscript appropriate? 5. Do you think the manuscript is scientifically correct? 6. Are the references sufficient and recent? If you have suggestion of additional references, please mention in the review form. <p><u>(Apart from above mentioned 6 points, reviewers are free to provide additional suggestions/comments)</u></p>	<p>General Comments</p> <p>From my point of view, it is a very interesting topic and simultaneously it seems that to the best of my knowledge is an important study which shows that Industries play vital roles in nation socio-economic development, and building construction industries constitutes an integral path in the Nigerian industrial sectors. Thus, corruption is a social factor associated with the existence of mankind, as it strives to manifest itself when not prevented in every human activity that involves monetary encouragement. Corruption is one of the major negative phenomena in the construction industry that requires sustainable remedies. Therefore, this study investigates the variables that are associated with building construction processes ranging from tendering, construction stage, handover, post occupancy and maintenance in relation to the corruption phenomenon that was regrouped into five basic corruption constructs [government influence and bureaucracy, unethical professional practice, client discretionary opinion and control, societal greed, and project contractual types] in the Nigerian building construction industries. One hundred and twenty (120) structured questionnaires were administered to building construction professionals [architects, civil engineers, quantity surveyors, service engineers], government agencies in public building units, building contractors and related agencies, and individuals in the field of building construction industries across Ondo and Ekiti State, Nigeria. The collated data was analyzed using Structural Equation Modelling (SEM). Thus, government influence and untidy bureaucracy, societal greed, unethical professional practice, and the unguided imposition of clients' discretionary opinions on building construction projects constitute the major factors responsible for corruption in the building construction industry, as evidenced by our findings, while project contractual types and their indicators exhibit lesser challenges compared to other corruption factors. This study proposes remedies to address the findings and gives recommendations towards achieving corruption-free building construction in Nigeria. The paper consists of the sections: Introduction, Objectives, Method, Measurement Model Evaluation, Structural Model Estimation, Interpretation of the Structural model, Conclusion and Recommendation..</p> <p>However, I find some recommendations:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The abstract must contains the main purpose of the paper, the research method used in the research and the main contributions. 2. It would be very useful to add in the "Introduction" section the purpose, objectives and hypothesis of the research. 3. The Literature review section cannot be missing from the paper. At the same time, section 2 is missing from the paper. 4. We consider that the introduction should specify the novelty of the paper compared to other papers published in this area. 5. The research is well based on science and the results are in agreement with the theoretical part. From my point of view, the paper is original and the topic addressed brings added value to the specialized literature regarding corruption. The paper is well written and easy to read. 6. The research is well based on science and the results are in agreement with the theoretical part. The model applied to the analyzed data is correctly used in the analysis undertaken, it is a strength point of this paper. 7. It is very important for the authors to analyze the correlation between the variables and to 	

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	<p>explain the number of items taken into account both in the descriptive analysis (with Kurtosis test, Jarque Berra test and interpretation, Skewness and Kurtosis interpretation) and in the correlation analysis.</p> <p>8. I think that descriptive perspective is crucial to understand the context of the problem to be analyzed.</p> <p>9. I consider that the correlation analysis and the VIF test are very important in this research.</p> <p>10. The authors must presents Hausman test results and to present the heteroskedasticity and endogeneity tests null hypotheses.</p> <p>11. Also, we consider that the literature is not enough and we recommend the authors to refer to other recent works indexed in Web of Science, Scopus, Emerald and Cambrige. We suggest that the authors cite papers indexed in Web of Science Journals, such as:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Batrancea L., Batrancea I., Moscviciov A. (2009), The Roots of the World Financial Crisis, <i>Annals of Faculty of Economics</i>, 3(1):57-62.2. Moscviciov, A., Bătrâncea, I., Bătrâncea, M., Bătrâncea, L.M. (2010) Financial Ratio Analysis Used In the It Enterprises, <i>Annals of the University of Oradea: Economic Science</i>, 19(2):600-603.3. Batrancea LM, Nichita A, Balci MA, Akgüller Ö (2023) Empirical investigation on how wellbeing-related infrastructure shapes economic growth: Evidence from the European Union regions. <i>PLoS ONE</i> 18(4): e0283277. https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0283277, ISSN:1932-6203. <p>5. We also consider that an important cause that influences GDP is fiscal compliance and therefore even if this variable was not taken into account, the authors should refer to the works published on this topic, namely:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">4. Batrancea L.M., Nichita R.A., Batrancea I. (2012), Tax Non-Compliance Behavior in the Light of Tax Law Complexity and the Relationship between Authorities and Taxpayers, <i>Annals of the Alexandru Ioan Cuza University-Economics</i>, 59(1), pp.97–106.5. Nichita R.A., Batrancea L.M., (2012), The Implications of Tax Morale on Tax Compliance Behavior, <i>Annals of University of Oradea: Economic Science</i>, 21(1)1, 739–744.6. Batrancea, L.M., Kudła, J., Błaszczak, B., Kopyt, K. (2022) Differences in tax evasion attitudes between students and entrepreneurs under the slippery slope framework, <i>Journal of Economic Behavior & Organization</i>, Volume 200, Pages 464-482, ISSN 0167-2681, https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jebo.2022.06.0177. Kogler, C., Olsen, J., Kirchler, E., Batrancea, L.M., & Nichita, A. (2022) Perceptions of trust and power are associated with tax compliance: A cross-cultural study, <i>Economic and Political Studies</i>, DOI: 10.1080/20954816.2022.2130501, Print ISSN: 2095-4816 Online ISSN: 2470-4024.8. Batrancea, L. M., Nichita, A., De Agostini, R., Batista Narcizo, F., Forte, D., Mamede, S. D. P. N., Roux- Cesar, A. M., Nedev, B., Vitek, L., Pântya, J., Salamzadeh, A., Nduka, E. K., Kudła, J., Kopyt, M., Pacheco, L., Maldonado, I., Isaga, N., Benk, S., & Budak, T. (2022). A self-employed taxpayer experimental study on trust, power, and tax compliance in eleven	
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	<p>countries. <i>Financial Innovation</i>, 8(1), 1-23, https://doi.org/10.1186/s40854-022-00404-y, ISSN:2199-4730</p> <p>9. Batrancea, L.M., Kudła,J., Błaszczak,B., Kopyt, M.(2023) A dataset on declared tax evasion attitudes of students and entrepreneurs from Poland under the slippery slope framework, <i>Data in Brief</i>,109183, ISSN 2352-3409, https://doi.org/10.1016/j.dib.2023.109183.</p> <p>7. Another important cause that must be mentioned in the paper is the link between GDP, fiscal compliance and shadow economy, as the independent variables fiscal compliance and shadow economy strongly influence GDP. In this sense, I recommend the authors to quote the paper:</p> <p>10. Batrancea L., Nichita A., Batrancea I., Gaban L. (2018). „The Strenght of the Relationship Between Shadow Economy and Corruption: Evidence from a Worldwide Country-Sample”. <i>Social Indicators Research</i>, 138(3), 1119-1143; DOI: 10.1007/s11205-017-1696-z</p> <p>We recommend the authors to number the paragraphs: 1. Introduction; 2. Literature Review; 3. Methods and Results, Discussions and Conclusions. In conclusion, the article should be thoroughly rebuilt (changes in structure recommended above). It should also be enhanced with a review of the literature adequate to the subject and a broader interpretation and commentary of the research results.</p>	
<p>Minor REVISION comments</p> <p>1. Is language/English quality of the article suitable for scholarly communications?</p>	<p>Yes</p>	
<p>Optional/General comments</p>	<p>The Manuscript needs careful English proofreading because there are some shortcomings. For instance, the article “the” is sometimes missing in front of nouns, the message in some paragraphs is not clear enough.</p>	

PART 2:

	Reviewer’s comment	Author’s comment (if agreed with reviewer, correct the manuscript and highlight that part in the manuscript. It is mandatory that authors should write his/her feedback here)
<p>Are there ethical issues in this manuscript?</p>	<p><i>(If yes, Kindly please write down the ethical issues here in details)</i></p>	

Reviewer Details:

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