

Accountability and transparency

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The Problem

- Corruption and Mismanagement of resources seem to be on the increase rather than decline.
- Yet there are enough laws that outline how the government is supposed to conduct itself in an accountable and transparent manner.
- These are enshrined in the constitution and other supporting legislation.
- Citizens also demand a government that is transparent, opinion polls show this_ Afrobarometer.

The evidence

- Misuse of Community Development Funds (CDF).
- There are questions about how Covid-19 relief was apportioned for instance sophisticated algorithms by Minister Mthuli, Covid-gate saga by Ngwenya and Obadiah Moyo.
- Attempts to conceal the country's foreign debt obligations.
- In addition, ministers have refused to answer questions posed by parliamentarians, some refused to show up for questioning.

Recommendations

- All government policies and actions be submitted to scrutiny and debate.
- Citizens be capacitated to engage in doing so, through publicly rewarding good behavior and
- Ensuring that the media is free to report on these matters.
- The government should punish transgressors publicly to demonstrate how serious they are against corruption.
- Parliament should be firm on its role in holding the government to account, but who can hold the government accountable if not the citizens are equipment?