

Transparency International: A Successful Model in Combating Administrative Corruption and Promoting Good Governance in Algeria



Mansouri Mohamed

University of M'sila, mansouri.mohamed@univ-msila.dz

Laboratory for Studies and Research in Law, Family, and Administrative Development

Abdelaziz Salma Achba

University of M'sila, [selma-achba.abdelaziz@univ-msila.dz](mailto:salma-achba.abdelaziz@univ-msila.dz)

Laboratory of Human Security: Reality, Challenges, and Prospects

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Abstract:

Transparency International is a non-governmental and civil organization dedicated to reducing and combating corruption worldwide. This is achieved through the publication of reports that indicate corruption levels in each country, based on the Corruption Perceptions Index. The organization also raises awareness about the harmful effects of corruption and collaborates with governments, corporations, and civil society to establish and implement effective measures to combat corruption.

Transparency International emphasizes the importance of adhering to transparency principles in the performance of local councils by enforcing laws and regulations, establishing a stable and continuous accountability mechanism characterized by reliable and sound administrative procedures, and involving citizens through information sharing. Furthermore, it develops strategies to train both the community and citizens by organizing awareness campaigns on ethical values and combating corrupt practices.

Keywords: Transparency International; Administrative Corruption; Good Governance.

* Corresponding author: Abdelaziz Salma Achba, [selma-achba.abdelaziz@univ-msila.dz](mailto:salma-achba.abdelaziz@univ-msila.dz)

Introduction:

Corruption is a structural and international phenomenon that permeates all aspects of political, economic, and legal life in countries around the world. Addressing corruption has become a top priority. In 1993, Peter Eigen, the former director of the World Bank, founded Transparency International as an international civil society non-governmental organization committed to fighting corruption worldwide, recognizing it as one of the primary scourges of the modern era.

Transparency International, as a civil and non-governmental organization, was established to limit and fight corruption in countries worldwide. This is achieved through the publication of reports indicating corruption levels in each country based on the Corruption Perceptions Index. The organization also raises awareness about the detrimental impacts of corruption and collaborates with governments, corporations, and civil society to create and carry out efficient anti-corruption initiatives.

The delivery of vital government services in areas like health and education is threatened by corruption, depletes government resources, and raises the cost of collective products and services. It also diminishes the inflow of private investment and shifts administrative focus towards managing legal complexities instead of pursuing more productive endeavors. Moreover, administrative corruption severely affects citizens, who are often compelled to pay disproportionately higher amounts in relation to their incomes to obtain administrative services that should be free of charge. Corruption is no longer just a local issue that undermines internal state structures and corrodes various administrative bodies and institutions; it has also become an international problem, hindering the achievement of global cooperation goals across all sectors. Thus, combating and eliminating it by all possible means is imperative.

Study Problem:

The following key question can be used to formulate the study's problem:

To what extent have the efforts of Transparency International contributed to combating corruption and promoting good governance at the local level?

Axis One: Mechanisms of Transparency International in Promoting Effective Leadership

First used in the 13th century as a synonym for "government," the word "good governance" was first used in law in 1978 to refer to "management costs" (charge de gouvernance). This definition eliminates any uncertainty regarding the term's French origin.

An essential idea in public administration is good governance, state policies, and the progress of nations. When comparing two countries with the same resources, despite their similarities, one may progress while the other lags. The key

difference lies in the presence of good governance in one and its absence in the other. Public authorities in a state characterized by good governance make decisions based on accurate information regarding specific public issues, compare alternative solutions, and choose the option that provides the maximum benefit at the lowest cost. From this perspective, we will first explore the concept of good governance, and then examine the pressure mechanisms employed by Transparency International to promote good governance and combat corruption.

1. The Concept of Good Governance:

In the 13th century, the phrase "good governance" first appeared in French as a synonym for "government." Later, in 1978, the term "management costs" was extensively adopted as a legal term. There is no dispute over the term's French origin based on this definition ([Samah & Aida, 2018](#)).

Good governance is a source of strength for a state when coupled with transparency and accountability. It provides a favorable environment that elevates society and establishes legitimacy. The World Bank defines good governance as "the traditions and institutions through which authority is exercised in a state ([International Monetary Fund, 1977, p. 47](#))." This definition encompasses ([Slimani, 2013, p. 76](#)):¹

The procedure for choosing, keeping an eye on, and replacing individuals in authority.

The government's capacity to implement reasonable policies and distribute monies effectively.

The respect that citizens and the state have for the organizations that govern their social and economic interactions.

Good governance, according to the UNDP, is "the exercise of economic, political, and administrative authority to manage a state's affairs at all levels." It includes the structures, practices, and processes that enable people and groups to voice their grievances, defend their legal rights, fulfill their obligations, and settle disputes ([United Nations Development Programme \(UNDP\), 1997](#)). Without good governance, citizens' participation in legislation, policy-making, regulations, and fighting corruption at higher institutions remains limited, resulting in outcomes that do not reflect their needs. This makes it challenging to achieve decisions that serve all groups' interests and nourish accountability ([Slimani, 2013, pp. 76-77](#)) ([Belia, 2016, pp. 6-7](#)).

1- It is evident that this concept extends to government agencies as well as other local institutions and civil society organizations. This concept raises important questions regarding codes of conduct, the structure of institutions, and the methods of operation, including the incentives for behavior. Regarding this topic.

Transparency and accountability are crucial components of effective governance, which is necessary to achieve progress. These two concepts are interconnected, as each ensures the presence of the other. Without transparency, there can be no accountability, and without accountability, transparency cannot lead to effective governance, thereby hindering efforts to combat corruption, the major obstacle to development.

The UNDP identifies four areas of good governance (or governance), namely (Jaryou, 2019):

- Economic Governance: This type involves decision-making processes that directly or indirectly impact economic activities within the state.
- Political Governance: This pertains to the mechanisms for making and implementing political decisions, including lawmaking and legislation within the state.
- Administrative Governance: This refers to the system for policy implementation through public sector institutions, which must be characterized by efficiency, independence, accountability, and transparency.
- Inclusive Governance: This focuses on processes that lead to a better standard of living for all members of society, ensuring freedom, security, safety, and access to healthcare services.

Transparency International defines good governance as "the result attained through the collaborative endeavors of the government, private sector, civil society, and all citizens in the fight against corruption." This commences with the collection, analysis, and distribution of information to enhance public knowledge regarding corruption and establishing procedures that empower stakeholders to eradicate it, or at least mitigate, the phenomenon.

The Algerian legislator addresses the concept of good governance in the City Guidance Law No. 06-06 (Law No. 06/06, 2006, p. 16). In the first chapter, which deals with general principles, the term "good governance" is mentioned in Article 2, where it is defined as: "Governance in which the administration addresses citizens' concerns and operates for the public good within a transparent framework." It is also discussed in Article 11 of the same law in the context of urban management, which focuses on promoting good governance in managing cities through:

- Developing rational management methods using modern tools and techniques.

- Providing and enhancing public services through the use of modern tools and techniques.
- Enhancing the quality and delivery of public services.

In summary, these definitions show that good governance is a set of rules, regulations, and choices intended to achieve quality and excellence in performance through the use of appropriate and successful tactics to achieve the goals and ambitions of the business (Ghadir, 2012, p. 13) (Karim, 2004, p. 96).²

2. Pressure Mechanisms Used by Transparency International to Promote Good Governance and Combat Corruption:

From the organization's perspective, building strategies to combat corruption requires creating an environment of integrity, which includes transparency and accountability by deepening the foundations of integrity through the implementation of accountability and disclosure standards. These elements collectively form the pillars of good governance. Transparency International employs a variety of strategies at both the national and local levels to combat corruption, focusing on the following approaches:

a. Enhancing Horizontal Accountability:

This involves strengthening the components of a horizontal accountability system as follows (Khalaf, 2010, pp. 162-163):

- Enhancing the organizational structure of institutions: This includes defining procedures, mechanisms, and timeframes for delivering services and informing the public about them. It also involves establishing

2- Alternatively, it is a system that the contemporary state has chosen to control, alter, and allocate resources in a way that permits the accomplishment of social and economic objectives within a framework of internal and external equilibrium. This is not unique to developing nations; it also holds true for developed nations. Or it might be "a set of mechanisms, resources, and methods reflecting the structuring of democratic values as a minimum requirement to achieve efficiency and effectiveness in the management of public affairs." It is additionally referred to as "a mode of exercising authority in managing a state's economic and social resources, particularly within the framework of seeking transparency to achieve development on all levels, with the consent and support of the people." For further details on this topic.

complaint offices with user-friendly systems and enabling the public to monitor the performance of civil service officials by raising awareness of their citizenship rights and duties.

- Reforming public programs and institutions, and strengthening the role of civil society.

b. Establishing Alliances Against Local and International Corruption:

Another key element in Transparency International's institutional strategy is building a natural coalition of interests, through broad-based support anticipated from governmental and non-governmental institutions, local civil society organizations, and the business sector (Florini, 2005, p. 48).³

In this context, Transparency International has sought to establish close connections with key stakeholders represented in (Khalaf, 2010, pp. 165-166):

- Business Institutions: Represented by local and global private sector companies that have gradually shown their willingness to engage in anti-corruption campaigns and to establish business ethics. This is facilitated by the proliferation of research centers, publications, seminars, and networks around the world.
- Governments: Through the recognition by many states of the need to involve civil society in any effort to combat corruption and their cooperation with the organization's branches, especially within regional frameworks like the European Union.
- International Financial Institutions: By pressuring the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund to adopt stronger anti-corruption positions.

3- "Corruption undermines the protection of human rights, the enforcement of property rights (which are essential for business), the development of professional standards (for example, in law, accounting, and engineering), the protection of children from exploitation, and the preservation of the environment," stated its chairman, Peter Eigen, with the expected broad support of governmental and non-governmental institutions, local civil society organizations, and the business sector. Consequently, the anti-corruption movement's appeal resides in its capacity to unite individuals who are typically unrelated. Transparency International's overarching goals, which are currently shared by numerous parties advocating for better governance in the guise of NGOs and advocacy groups, center on fostering partnerships between the public and private sectors." On this topic.

- Individuals: Transparency International highlights that without the dedication and leadership of each individual, forming a coalition against corruption would not have been feasible. This is achieved through a large network of high-level volunteers and professionals, who provide access to key decision-makers, making Transparency International undoubtedly stronger than many traditional groups (Florini, 2005, pp. 48-53).⁴

3. Enhancing Accountability and Combating Corruption in Local Governance:

Transparency International proposes a set of tools and mechanisms to identify corruption hotspots, acquire knowledge and information to increase transparency in local governance, monitor government activities and the performance of local representatives, and strengthen the role and position of civil society organizations. This approach is inspired by the experience of the Federation of Canadian Municipalities, which focuses on enhancing urban governance through public and internal accountability mechanisms. These mechanisms result in effective monitoring processes that deter corruption and help improve the performance of local governments by increasing their effectiveness and efficiency. Additionally, they aim to include civil society in the monitoring process and to conduct studies and research led by representatives of international non-governmental organizations and academic researchers (Mahmoud, 2009, p. 221) (Khalaf, 2010, p. 167).

Transparency International has created a number of helpful resources in partnership with the World Bank and the UN Human Settlements Programme, including:

- The Municipal Audit Checklist;
- Urban Corruption Surveys;
- Assessment of Municipal Activity Vulnerabilities;
- Evaluation of Participation in Corrupt Practices (Transparency International; United Nations Human Settlements Programme, 2004, pp. 29–32).

4- As noted here: academics actively contribute to the organization's work by conducting and publishing research on this subject.

1. The Organization's Role in Activating Civil Society and Enacting Anti-Corruption Legislation and Institutions

Transparency International proposes a series of tools and mechanisms to identify corruption hotspots and acquire knowledge and information that increase transparency in local governance and monitor government activities and the performance of local representatives. This is achieved through strengthening the role and position of civil society organizations (First) and enacting legislation and establishing anti-corruption bodies (Second).

a. Activating the Role of Civil Society:

The concept of civil society has become inseparable from the modern state. The relationship is no longer characterized by direct interactions between citizens and the state but rather by indirect relations mediated by civil society institutions such as political parties, associations, and unions, among others.

2. The Concept of Civil Society:

Saad Eddin Ibrahim defines civil society as (Bouamama, 2005):⁵ "A group of voluntary, free, non-governmental, and non-inherited organizations that occupy the public sphere between the family and the state, aimed at achieving the interests of their members in a cause or collective interest, and expressing these interests with commitment to values and standards of respect, mutual consent, tolerance, and sound management of diversity and differences (Ibrahim, 2000, p. 13)."

However, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) defines civil society organizations as "a collection of associations and connections through which society organizes itself voluntarily." Examples include business associations, social and sports clubs, cooperatives and community development organizations, women's, cultural, linguistic, and religious associations, trade unions, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), educational and political research institutions, environmental groups, professional associations, and the media. Political parties

5- Professor Alain Richards defined civil society as: "A network of organizations, practices, and regulations that arise from the voluntary free will of its members, serving an interest or cause, or expressing values and sentiments cherished by these individuals, with relative independence from the authority of the state and traditional institutions on the other hand, and committed in its activities to tolerance and respect for others."

are included in civil society, but they are also considered a part of the state when they are represented in parliament ([United Nations Development Programme \(UNDP\), 1997, p. 09](#))."

From these definitions, several key elements can be derived:

- The autonomous and intermediary institutions that fill the social gap between the state, the market, and the family make up civil society.
- Civil society is based on a voluntary association in which individuals enter willingly.
- Civil society requires a legal framework that defines a set of rights to ensure its independence and regulate its relationship with the state.
- The dominance of a civic culture is essential, characterized by acceptance of different perspectives, recognition of pluralism within society, and the ability to resolve conflicts peacefully and democratically.

3. The Role of Civil Society in Combating Corruption:

Civil society organizations are especially competent of exposing various forms of corruption due to their independent position, which is free from official frameworks. They can play a significant role in spreading a culture of transparency, formulating credible definitions that can detect all forms of corruption, and enabling all development actors to hold accountable all participants in the creation of various types of corruption without discrimination. Transparency International has contributed to empowering civil society institutions through the following:

- Promoting Anti-Corruption Conventions: Civil society organizations play a major role in promoting anti-corruption conventions at all stages, from negotiation to review and monitoring. They can exert pressure on their governments to prioritize the ratification and implementation of these conventions by providing research, analysis, and assistance in interpreting and translating legal terms into a language that everyone can understand. Furthermore, they can explain the benefits of the conventions and reports to citizens and their importance in addressing corruption issues ([Suleiman, p. 110](#)).⁶

6- It should be noted that civil society organizations can independently record, announce, and evaluate government performance, separate from self-evaluation,

- Increasing Accountability and Transparency in Political Systems to Improve Governance: Civil society groups can act as balances on the power of the government. By carrying out this responsibility, they can enhance accountability and transparency in political systems, which will help to improve governance. They can also take part in the creation of policies, the defense of rights, the balancing of interests, and the delivery of social services. By taking these steps, civil society organizations strengthen the rule of law, increase public engagement and effectiveness, and advance other aspects of good governance (Ammar, p. 85).⁷
- Activating the role of civil society through its structures: Any country's civil society is comprised of several groups, including industrial associations, labor unions, trade associations, employers' associations, professional associations, media outlets, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), and officially recognized human rights organizations. Civil society is also thought to include political parties. Political parties are governed by a specific legislative framework in nations that permit multi-party systems. Articles devoted to elections and electoral politics go into further information about political parties, their platforms, and parliamentary representation (Slimani, 2013, p. 78).

4. Enacting Anti-Corruption Legislation and Establishing Anti-Corruption Bodies

Public sentiment for the formation of an international coalition against corruption was greatly impacted by the rise of Transparency International. Particularly since the United Nations Convention against Corruption was adopted in 2003 and went into force in 2005, its local branches and civil society mobilization have been crucial in reducing corruption and applying pressure on governments. Numerous nations signed and approved this convention, which resulted in the creation of specialized organizations to address the problem and the adoption of domestic laws intended to prevent and combat corruption.

and organize awareness campaigns to improve performance and expose corruption to the national or international public opinion.

7- For example, when given a fair amount of freedom of expression, the media has occasionally succeeded in becoming important avenues for participation, accountability, and transparency, which benefits and better represents citizens than the official legislative bodies connected to the government.

By ratifying the United Nations Convention against Corruption and the African Union Convention on Preventing and Combating Corruption, Algeria became a part of the global community,⁸ and the Arab Convention on Corruption.⁹ These conventions obligated the signatory states to uphold the principles of accountability and openness in public affairs management and to reject and counter corrupt practices and related crimes. To achieve these objectives, the states party to these conventions committed to establishing institutions responsible for preventing corruption (Bouzebrah, 2008, p. 96).

Since its signing and ratification of the UN Convention in 2005, Algeria has enacted specific anti-corruption legislation, notably Law No. 06-01 dated February 20, 2006 (Law No. 06-01, 2006-2010-2011). This law led to the establishment of a specialized body tasked with combating corruption, known as the Central Office for Repression of Corruption, and strengthened the role of the Court of Auditors to

8- The African Union Convention on Preventing and Combating Corruption was adopted by the member states during the second regular session of the conference, which was held on July 11, 2003, in Maputo, the capital of Mozambique. The pact became operative on August 5, 2006, thirty days after the submission of the fifteenth instrument of ratification. By the end of 2019, almost 40 countries, or 70% of the African Union's members, had ratified the convention. The convention's principles include respect for democratic institutions and principles, public participation, the rule of law, good governance, respect for human and people's rights, and accountability and transparency in the management of public affairs, as stated in the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights and other relevant human rights instruments. It aims to promote social justice in order to achieve balanced social and economic development, in addition to condemning and rejecting corruption, related crimes, and impunity. The convention addresses corruption and related acts include requesting or accepting money, giving or receiving money, completing or neglecting to complete responsibilities, exploiting one's position, and obtaining illicit gain.

9- Based on the recognition that Arab cooperation is necessary to prevent and combat corruption as a cross-border phenomena, the Councils of Arab Ministers of Interior and Justice approved the Arab Convention against Corruption in December 2010. Since its implementation in June 2013, the convention has sought to prevent, combat, and expose corruption in all of its manifestations, as well as all associated crimes, and to bring those responsible to justice. Additionally, it aims to strengthen Arab collaboration in this area, advance honesty, openness, responsibility, and the rule of law, and motivate people and civil society organizations to actively engage in the prevention and fight against corruption.

limit corruption in public finances, as outlined in Order No. 10-02 ([Ordinance No. 10-02, 2010-1995](#)).

Like many developing nations, Algeria has worked to create institutional and legal structures to fight corruption and implement the idea of good governance. The new law strengthens its conformity with the United Nations Convention against Corruption, which Algeria adopted on August 25, 2004, and it is consistent with current laws ([Center for Arab Unity Studies, 2004, p. 20](#)) ([Slimani, 2013, p. 78](#)).

As a member of the international community, Algeria has accepted the United Nations Convention against Corruption, the African Union Convention on Preventing and Combating Corruption, and the Arab Convention against Corruption. These treaties impose obligations on the signature nations to combat corruption and related offenses and to uphold accountability and openness in the administration of public affairs. To achieve this, the states that have ratified these accords have committed to establishing anti-corruption procedures.

In reaction to the national legislator's creation of anti-corruption organizations, efforts were made to strengthen these bodies through legal frameworks that govern them. Article 17 of Law No. 06-01, as amended, provides for the establishment of a National Body for the Prevention and Combatting of Corruption, tasked with implementing national strategies in the field of anti-corruption ([Article 17 of Law No. 06-01](#)). In addition, regulatory texts were introduced to frame and organize the functioning of this body.

Referring to Article 18 of Law No. 06-01, the Algerian legislator characterizes the National Body for the Prevention and Combatting of Corruption as an independent administrative authority with legal personality and financial independence, reporting to the President of the Republic. Given the widespread nature of corruption, affecting several sectors and even reaching the highest levels of authority, it became essential to revisit the legal framework. Article 202, following the review of the 1996 Constitution, stipulates that the National Body for the Prevention and Combatting of Corruption is an independent administrative authority with financial and administrative independence. This indicates a restructuring of the body from a legal institution to a constitutional one¹⁰, reflecting the same status enshrined in Article 18 of Law No. 06-01, as amended.

10- The Constitution of the People's Democratic Republic of Algeria of 1996, published under Presidential Decree No. 438-96, dated December 7, 1996, in the Official Gazette No. 76, issued on December 7, 1996, amended and supplemented by Law No. 02-503, dated April 10, 2002, in the Official Gazette No. 25, issued on April 14, 2002, by Law No. 19-08, dated November 15, 2008, in the Official Gazette No. 63, issued on November 16, 2008, and amended and supplemented by Law No.

These provisions show that the Algerian legislator was committed to creating an independent authority to effectively address the threat of corruption, free from external influences and pressures. The purpose of granting and enshrining the body's independence is to ensure that it remains, from a legal perspective, an entity that is neither affiliated with ministerial departments nor the judiciary. Functionally, it operates independently from the government and is not subject to executive oversight (Bouzebrah, 2008, p. 97).

Similarly, the Central Office for Repression of Corruption was established following the amendment of Law No. 06-01 through Ordinance No. 10-05, as a legislative and regulatory text creating a new body dedicated to combatting corruption. According to Articles 2 and 3 of Presidential Decree No. 11-426, dated December 8, 2011, the Central Office is a central operational department of the judicial police¹¹ under the Minister of Justice, with the mission of investigating and detecting crimes within the framework of anti-corruption efforts (Articles 2 and 3 of Presidential Decree No. 11-426, 2011).

The Central Office is not an administrative authority; thus, it does not issue opinions or administrative decisions on combatting corruption, unlike the National Body. Instead, it exercises its powers under the supervision and control of the judiciary (the Public Prosecutor's Office). Its primary mission is to investigate and detect corruption offenses and refer perpetrators to justice (Hahha, 2013, p. 504).

In summary, thanks to the efforts of Transparency International in encouraging countries to ratify various international and regional anti-corruption conventions, particularly those targeting administrative corruption, the Algerian state enacted Law No. 06-01, as amended. This law includes provisions and measures that enhance integrity and transparency in the management of both the public and private sectors. It also introduced several mechanisms, primarily the establishment of the National Body for the Prevention and Combatting of Corruption, tasked with proposing a comprehensive policy in this field to uphold the principles of the rule of law. Moreover, it granted the Central Office the

16-01, dated March 6, 2016, in the Official Gazette No. 14, issued on March 7, 2016.

11- The Algerian legislator has delineated the structure, organization, and operational procedures of this council through Presidential Decree No. 426-11. Article 1 states: "The council is a central operational entity of the judicial police tasked with investigating and inquiring into crimes within the framework of combating corruption." Article 2 of the same decree further stipulates: "The Central Council for the Suppression of Corruption is placed under the authority of the Minister of Finance and enjoys autonomy in its work and operations."

authority to suppress various crimes that may affect public contracts, which have increasingly threatened the stability of state institutions, by equipping it with a specialized and deterrent-oriented structure.

Conclusion:

Transparency International has played a fundamental role in combating administrative corruption through prevention, awareness-raising, and adopting a strategy of applying pressure and exposing cases of corruption, despite not always having the necessary resources to perform its role effectively. In addition to fighting corruption, the organization's tactics include gathering, evaluating, and sharing data to increase public awareness of corruption. Additionally, it has established collaborations with the state, commercial sector, and civil society at the national, regional, and global levels to combat corruption. Its several branches work together to accomplish this goal.

Good governance represents a new perspective on managing state and societal affairs, serving as a fair and reliable framework for managing natural and human resources based on efficiency, equity, and empowerment. From this standpoint, international organizations, led by Transparency International, have swiftly adopted this concept as an effective alternative with analytical capacity. This approach allows for the interpretation of the causes and manifestations of poor governance and weak performance, which often coincide with the spread of administrative corruption. It also provides a rigorous methodological structure for measuring the quality of governance and performance effectiveness and combating corruption. Based on these principles, the perspective of good governance has been integrated into the programs and plans of these organizations as processes and practices aimed at reconstructing the rationale of the modern state, which guarantees human rights, active participation in public policy-making, and the achievement of social satisfaction with the quality of services and prompt responsiveness.

From our study titled, "Transparency International: A Successful Model in Combating Administrative Corruption and Promoting Good Governance," we have reached several conclusions:

Transparency International has succeeded in establishing a global movement to combat corruption, which has been widely welcomed internationally. The organization has effectively mobilized global civil society to tackle corruption, which threatens efforts to achieve development and social justice. Through its branches, the organization has played a crucial role in raising awareness among civil society and mobilizing it against this phenomenon by pushing for the enactment of legislation and the establishment of specialized bodies to combat and limit the spread of corruption.

There is a lack of oversight and accountability by the government towards those responsible, particularly in higher administrations, leading to the waste of resources and embezzlement of funds due to administrative corruption within state institutions.

Administrative corruption leads to reduced investment and capital flight from the country, at a time when these funds should be utilized to establish economic development projects that provide employment opportunities. Additionally, it drives skilled and economically capable individuals to emigrate due to nepotism and favoritism in public sector appointments.

International institutions, especially Transparency International, alongside governments, aim to practically implement the principles of good governance to prevent these principles from being mere slogans used for domestic consumption or to improve the state's image internationally, as is often the case in many developing countries. This objective can only be achieved by reforming public administration systems through mechanisms of participation, accountability, the rule of law, transparency, and efficiency. It requires a balanced and harmonious relationship between the key actors of good governance, represented by effective public administration, active civil society, and a productive private sector. These actors must operate in an environment that respects the sanctity of universal human rights and embodies the standards of local democracy.

Most international institutions agree on the principles and standards reflecting the quality of local governance, such as accountability, openness as well as legality. But their bases and metrics for gauging the degree of corruption and the quality of governance are different. Transparency International's indicators, focused on combating corruption, include:

Measure of Recovered Stolen Assets: Legal procedures related to reclaiming the state's official resources.

Measure of Accountability and Auditing: Internal and external examinations of institutional accounts and performance levels.

Measure of Civil Society's Role: Gauges the involvement of non-governmental institutions in raising awareness about the dangers of corruption and their degree of engagement in combating it.

Transparency International emerges as a leading non-governmental organization in combating corruption and reforming governance, through its branches and global networks. It relies on gathering information, conducting research and studies, performing surveys, and measuring levels of good governance and corruption. These activities are aimed at raising public awareness both locally and globally and mobilizing them to support national and community efforts in promoting good governance practices and engaging in anti-corruption efforts, especially administrative corruption.

Based on these findings, it is essential to establish representative democratic institutions and define the functional relationships between the legislative, executive, and judicial authorities to prevent the misuse of power. Furthermore, there is a need to reform public administration systems by enhancing citizens' ability to fight administrative corruption by combining good governance principles, accountability, and transparency systems.

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