

THE IMPACT OF ADMINISTRATIVE CORRUPTION ON THE PERFORMANCE OF LOCAL ADMINISTRATION IN ALGERIA



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Abstract: This study aims to research the effects of administrative corruption on the performance of local management in Algeria and its consequences. The research aims to identify the manifestations of administrative corruption, its causes and how it affects the performance of local management and then reviews the necessary mechanisms to confront it and at the same time improve administrative performance. In addition, this study concludes that both transparency in management, democratic participation and e-government are mechanisms that reduce negative practices related to administrative corruption and allow for the improvement of local management performance.

key words: Administrative Corruption; Performance; Local management; Human Resources; Management Transparency; Democratic participation; E-government.

JEL classification: H1; H7; H110; H830; M1; M120

ملخص: جاءت هذه الدراسة للبحث في تأثيرات الفساد الإداري على أداء الإدارة المحلية بالجزائر و تداعياته، في حين تهدف هذه الدراسة البحثية إلى تحديد مظاهر الفساد الإداري وأسباب حدوثه وكيفية تأثيره على أداء الإدارة المحلية ومن ثم استعراض الآليات اللازمة التي تسمح بمواجهته وفي نفس الوقت تحسن من أداء الإداري، علاوة على ذلك خلصت هذه الدراسة إلى نتيجة مفادها أن كلا من الشفافية الإدارية و الديمقراطية التشاركية و الإدارة الإلكترونية من الآليات التي تقلل من الممارسات السلبية المرتبطة بالفساد الإداري وتسمح بالارتقاء بأداء الإدارة المحلية.

الكلمات المفتاحية: الفساد الإداري؛ الأداء؛ الإدارة المحلية؛ الموارد البشرية؛ الشفافية

الإدارية؛ الديمقراطية التشاركية؛ الإدارة الإلكترونية.

تصنيف جال: H1; H7; H110; H830; M1; M120.

Introduction:

The local management in Algeria aims to raise its efficiency and effectiveness, which will certainly have a positive impact on the services provided to the local community at the economic, social and cultural level. However, achieving this goal is hindered by the disease of administrative diseases known as administrative corruption, which prioritizes personal and group interests over the public interest and takes a large place within the local management due to its diverse manifestations, which must be eradicated. This is achieved by creating an administrative environment that raises the challenge of creating a performance that is far from corrupt behavior.

A-Research problematic: Based on the above, the following research question is raised: To what extent can administrative corruption affect the performance of local management in Algeria?

B-Sub-study hypothesis:

-Administrative corruption is a factor in the decline of the performance of local management in Algeria and its deterioration.

-Enhancing integrity and transparency mechanisms contributes to reducing administrative corruption and raising the level of performance of local management in Algeria.

C-Study objectives: This research aims to highlight the knowledge value of administrative corruption and how it affects the performance of local management in Algeria in the context of the challenges it poses.

D-Study significance: The significance of this research study is revealed in the diagnosis of the effects of administrative corruption on the performance of local management in Algeria and then determining how to overcome it through a set of appropriate mechanisms that raise the level of performance and reduce the gap of administrative corruption.

E-Study methodology: This study relied on the legal approach and this by reviewing some legal texts that serve the subject of the study, in addition to using two levels of scientific research, which are description and analysis in order to familiarize with all the surrounding aspects of the subject of the study and reach the desired results.

F-Study structure: This research study is divided into three main items, the first item dealt with the definition of concepts related to the study, while the second item dealt with the reflections of administrative corruption on the performance of local management in Algeria and the third item dealt with the mechanisms to combat administrative corruption and raise the level of performance of local management in Algeria.

2. Setting Concepts

This section is concerned with providing definitions for terms related to the study topic, where the first element provides a definition of administrative

corruption and its characteristics, while the second element focuses on defining performance.

2.1 Definition of administrative corruption and its characteristics

A- Definition: There are several definitions of administrative corruption; some of them are:

Kuper and Clark define administrative corruption as "the misuse of public office or authority for personal, clique or self-benefit in an unlawful manner" (Maabara, 2011, p. 92).

While, Husain Al-Mohammedy has defined administrative corruption as "negative behavior that relies on exploiting the employee's position and the authority given to him to achieve a special benefit that contradicts the laws, regulations and instructions that govern the organization's affairs" (Al-Mohammadi, 2008, p. 13).

Therefore, on the above definitions, the operational definition of administrative corruption can be extracted, which refers to: "the abuse of the position or job held by the employee and directing it towards serving personal interests at the expense of public interests".

B-Characteristics: Administrative corruption is characterized by a set of characteristics, some of which are (Al-Shrabini, 2017, p. 36):

-Administrative corruption includes all administrative levels, but its origin starts from the highest administrative body to the smallest.

-Administrative corruption is a global phenomenon that has a negative impact on the social situation economic development for specific communities is hindered as a result of weak regulatory bodies.

-It is difficult to detect and combat administrative corruption because those who practice it follow a well-planned strategy in terms of location, time and desired outcome.

-Methods and techniques used to carry out administrative corruption have become more sophisticated and complex.

-The accumulation of corrupt human resources within government institutions creates a corrupt organizational environment.

2.2 Definition of performance: There are different definitions of performance, some of them are:

Amal Bint Salama Al-Shaman defines performance as "the ability of an individual to accomplish administrative tasks assigned to them efficiently, effectively and with quality" (Al-Shaman, p. 133).

While Monaty Abdulaziz Mahsen sees performance as "the total administrative behaviors that occur based on the individual's position to perform the task assigned to him and at the same time bearing the responsibility of achieving it."

On the other hand, Haroun Abdulmajeed refers to performance as "measurement of results, answering the question of whether your work is

complete meaning did you accomplish what was required of you in your work and is determined by the level of motivation and ability" (Magid, 2018).

Based on the above definitions, the operational definition of performance can be extracted, which refers to "the efforts made by employees to achieve their administrative tasks in a way that allows them to reach the goals set by the administrative system."

3. The impact of administrative corruption on the performance of local administration in Algeria

Administrative corruption in local administration in Algeria is a result of corrupt and deviant behaviors that human elements intentionally create, whether they are local elected officials or appointed officials, according to a specific methodology that contradicts legal and regulatory texts that govern the work of the administration.

This corruption affects the performance of local administration in terms of efficiency and effectiveness, which leads to a decline in the level of services provided to citizens, which in turn reflects negatively on the development and stability of the community.

3.1 Forms of administrative corruption and its impact on local administration performance

Negative actions of public officials that have minor and invisible effects on local government performance, such as: employees not committing to work schedules, neglect and laziness in performing administrative duties, disclosing professional secrets, and refusing to follow a collaborative approach to work (Han, 2015).

If these issues are ignored and not dealt with appropriately, they will inevitably develop into more severe and complex forms of administrative corruption (Al-Kafi, 2016, pp. 69-73):

A-Bribery: It occurs by giving or receiving something of value (monetary or non-monetary) in a corrupt transaction. Even though bribery is intended to bypass laws and regulations, it is sometimes offered by an individual (naturally or intentionally) as a means of obtaining a right that cannot be obtained without offering the bribe.

B-Nepotism: It occurs when officials use their authority or influence to favor or discriminate against a specific individual or entity, contrary to laws and regulations, for example, some officials who have a specific authority (either from a governmental or private institution) give benefits to their relatives or friends.

C-Abuse of power: It occurs when officials use their positions to gain personal or financial benefits, such as by accepting bribes or engaging in insider trading. This can lead to a lack of public trust in government and a lack of accountability for officials' actions.

D-Embezzlement: It refers to the takeover something of economic value by those who manage or maintain it. For example, an employee in the government sector may take control of a portion of the public assets owned by the people and exploit it for personal gain.

E-Fraud: It is the deception, trickery, or manipulation of information and facts to achieve personal gain. Fraud can be committed by individuals against each other and can be carried out by political or administrative officials.

All of these phenomena have a direct impact on the performance of local management which remains weak, due to the fact that its corrupt human resources extend their control over the means by which administrative tasks are accomplished and undermine the efforts of honest human resources that aim to improve administrative performance. Also, the overall public services provided in this corrupt administrative environment are primarily serving the interests of a narrow and specific group, while the rest of the society remains trapped in these corrupt behaviors and unable to meet their daily needs, which is reflected in the corrupt behavior of some local elected officials at the level of states and municipalities who manipulate the performance of their duties of social, economic and cultural services to support them before and after their election (El-Taye, 2020).

This huge number of judicial proceedings witnessed by the local government in Algeria, particularly municipalities, is confirmed by some approximate statistics that have not been verified or denied by official bodies. It is suggested that there are about 1100 judicial proceedings against the heads of municipalities in Algeria, out of a total of 1541 heads of municipal councils (El-Taye, 2020), all of which fall under the category of administrative corruption. These include embezzlement of public funds, the conclusion of public deals outside the legal framework, mismanagement, the inflation of bills, the exploitation of the job and more. As a primary analytical view, we say that the mentioned numbers are staggering in comparison to their total number, as they reflect the extent of the size of administrative corruption and its spread despite the diversity of supervisory bodies such as the National Authority for the Prevention of Corruption and its Combating , the Directorate for Monitoring Local Elected Officials at the Ministry of Interior, and local groups. Therefore, it is necessary to review the methods used to combat administrative corruption in public administrations and institutions in general and local government in particular and to strive to improve performance from the perspective of excellence.

Therefore, we can say that as the ceiling of administrative corruption increases, the level of performance of local government decreases, as administrative corruption undermines the supervisory bodies and increase obstacles to the provision of basic services to the citizens.

3.2 Causes of Administrative Corruption in Local administration and Weak Performance

There are a number of reasons that push the human resources working in local government to fall into administrative corruption, which directly affects the performance of administrative work and prevents its achievement according to the sound professional approach. The most prominent of these reasons are (Mazhara, p. 127):

-The abundance of constraints and ambiguities in laws and systems, which can cause unintended errors and create an environment conducive to the growth of corruption.

-Poor distribution of income among society's segments and feelings of economic injustice among some segments.

-Decrease in the purchasing power of low-income individuals and increase in the difficulties and costs of living.

-The large size of the public sector workforce, which has a great impact on society's life in terms of the distribution of goods and services. As the public sector grows, so do the areas of work and specialization, and the tendency towards corruption increases, leading to the spread of negative connotation of bureaucracy

-The administrative tools fail, causing accumulation and delay in completing transactions and hindering the implementation of plans and accounts on time, which highlights the manifestations of corruption.

-The organizational structure does not match, which includes many administrative flaws such as unclear communication channels, the scope of administrative supervision and interests that belong to the administration, which can result in interference and duplication of tasks and functions, and leads to difficulty in determining responsibility and monitoring the chief's activity and the efficiency and activity of the employees under him.

-The absence of a legal framework that allows a wide scope for interpretation and improvisation by the human supplier.

-The existence of a management that monopolizes information and prevents its circulation among those concerned, whether they are official monitoring devices or official press or researchers seeking to monitor comprehensive and comprehensive issues of this type, as administrative information is a double-edged sword that enables those who are aware of the facts to evaluate the performance of the management and know the available decisions, as the corrupt employee seeks not to reveal administrative matters that may be subject to punishment.

-The absence of professional ethics in management and lack of accountability, all of which lead to corruption and contribute to its expansion within the administration.

In addition to other reasons that contribute to the spread of corruption (Hassan, 2020):

A-Incentive:The weakness of the individual income of local administration employees and their lack of sufficiency drives them to seek to earn money through illegal and illegal means to meet their daily needs.

B-Opportunity:It relates to the efforts of some corrupt employees in the local administration to find any gaps in legal and regulatory texts in light of the weakness of monitoring devices to practice corrupt behaviors that achieve their personal interests at the expense of the public interest of the local community.

C-Justification:This element is related to the presentation of corrupt employees in local administration with arguments and justifications to justify their corrupt behaviors.

Based on what has been presented, it can be said that the spread of administrative corruption in local administration and the deterioration of its performance is not only related to the behavior and deviations of public employees, but also to the nature of the prevailing ruling system. Is it true that comprehensive administrative reforms (in which all local stakeholders, especially civil society organizations, should be involved in this process) are needed to regulate the centralized administrative regulations, such as local administration, which can avoid this latter from falling into corruption and improve its economic, social and political performance.

In addition to this, the ability of the central authority to develop and update its oversight mechanisms on the performance of local administration far from traditional conventional means that may take a lot of time to show results, thus opening the door more widely for administrative corruption in various forms, which ultimately leads to a decline in performance.

Also, there is a third element related to the extent of the local administration's adherence to its obligations towards its human resources in the field of attention to the behavioral and human aspects that determine their professional and personal needs, which allows them to improve their performance of administrative tasks with a high level of efficiency and effectiveness, and this in itself prevents them from falling into administrative corruption.

4. The mechanisms to combat administrative corruption in the Algerian local administration and improve its performance

Before discussing the mechanisms (transparent administrative and democratic participatory and electronic management) to combat administrative corruption in local government and improve its performance, it is necessary to talk about the general framework for facing administrative corruption in Algeria, which was not a coincidence, but rather came according to specific

chronological sequences, starting from Algeria's adherence to the United Nations Convention against Corruption adopted by the General Assembly of the United Nations in New York on October 31, 2003. This convention aims to (Algeria, Presidential Decree number 04-128, dated April 19, 2004, includes the approval of the United Nations Convention against Corruption adopted by the General Assembly of the United Nations in New York on October 31, 2003, in order to prevent and combat corrup, 2004, pp. 12-13):

- Creating the necessary mechanisms to combat corruption in all its forms and working to support these mechanisms in a way that ensures their efficiency and integrity.

- Seeking international partnership and cooperation in the field of preventing and combating corruption.

- Promoting values of integrity, accountability, and rational management of public affairs and property.

This agreement also carried many points related to limiting administrative corruption and preventing its spread in the public administration, including (Algeria, Presidential Decree number 04-128, dated April 19, 2004, includes the approval of the United Nations Convention against Corruption adopted by the General Assembly of the United Nations in New York on October 31, 2003, in order to prevent and combat corrup, 2004, pp. 16-17):

- Working to promote transparency in public administration by adopting a set of administrative measures that facilitate the transfer of information between citizens and the administration, such as simplifying administrative procedures and relying on legal and regulatory guidelines that enable citizens to know information related to the organization and operations of public administration and the decision-making process at its level.

- Activating community participation in preventing and combating corruption and its effects on the performance of public administration.

In February 20th, 2006, Algeria issued Law number 06-01 related to the prevention of corruption and its combat, this law emphasized the same elements mentioned in the United Nations Convention against Corruption, especially the first and second items (transparency in dealing with the public and civil society participation), in addition to that (Algeria, Law number 06-01, dated February 20, 2006, relates to the prevention of corruption and its combat, 2006, p. 06), This law provided for the establishment of the National Authority for the Prevention of Corruption and its Combat as an administrative authority with moral personality and financial independence, it works on raising an annual comprehensive report to the President of the Republic, who is the one who issued it, and it should be noted that this report contains a summary of the activities carried out in the field of corruption prevention and combat, as well as the Authority presents the results of field inspections of public administrations and institutions and the necessary recommendations to overcome them (Algeria,

Law number 06-01, dated February 20, 2006, relates to the prevention of corruption and its combat, 2006, p. 07). On November 22, 2006, the official announcement of the formation of this Authority and the start of its activity was issued by virtue of the Presidential Decree number 06-413, which determines its formation, organization and conduct (algeria, 2006, p. 17).

However, in 2020, a new constitutional institution was established behind the National Authority for the Prevention of Corruption and its Combat, known as the Superior Authority for Transparency and the Prevention of Corruption and its Combat. This institution has a moral personality, financial and administrative independence and aims to achieve higher indicators of integrity and transparency in the management of public affairs. This institution is expected to play a major role in future in combating administrative corruption in local government and improving its performance, due to the large number of responsibilities granted to it by the 2020 Constitution, particularly article 205, which mainly deals with (Algeria, presidential decree Number 20-442, dated december 30, 2020, relates to the issuance of a constitutional amendment approved in november 2020, 2020, p. 43):

- Collect all information on corruption cases and then study and process it to then transmit this information to the competent bodies for consideration.
- Inform the Accounting Council and the competent judicial authority in the event of abuses falling under the heading of corruption and issue orders to the relevant institutions and agencies if necessary.
- Involving civil society organizations and other actors in the process of fighting corruption.

Promoting a culture of transparency, prevention and combating corruption and its impact on society.

- To endeavour to open the possibility for specialists to express their opinions and submit their proposals on the relevant legal texts in the area of competence of the Supreme Authority for Transparency, Prevention and Combating of Corruption.
- Work on the formation of agents of agencies responsible for transparency, prevention and combating corruption.
- Establishing the principles of transparency, good governance, prevention and combating corruption in political and social construction.

As well as the powers included in the Act number 22-08, which establishes the organization of the Supreme Authority for Transparency and the Prevention and Control of Corruption, which relates primarily to (Algeria, , Law number 22-08, dated May 5, 2022, relates to the prevention of corruption and its combat, 2022, pp. 07-08):

- Focus on collecting as much data and information as public administrations first assist natural or moral persons in preventing and detecting corrupt acts and behaviours.

-Evaluation and continuous evaluation of various legal and administrative measures in the field of transparency and the prevention and control of corruption and work to make proposals and recommendations for the development of these means to achieve the basic objective.

-Preparation of periodic, regular, accurate and detailed reports on all activities related to preventing and combating corruption.

- Strengthening civil society's role through the creation of interactive networks to consolidate its activities in the field of preventing and combating corruption.

-To prepare an annual report on its activity throughout the year, which it submits to the President of the Republic and informs public opinion of the content of this report.

-Conducting inquiries of an administrative and financial nature in respect of public officials reflecting manifestations of illicit enrichment without any justification to substantiate this perceived increase in their financial irregularities.

-Ensure that transparency and corruption prevention systems are in place in public and private administrations and that they reflect the true quality and effectiveness of their implementation

4.1 Administrative transparency :

Administrative transparency allows for citizens and civil society organizations to monitor the performance of local government, but this only occurs if there is information exchange between them and local stakeholders in order to take into account their views and proposals to assist in the implementation of local development policies and programs. They can also identify areas of weakness and strength, and those that are prone to corruption, linking decision-makers, implementers, and stakeholders, which calls for their handling to minimize their spread.

From here, it can be said that the more transparency in local government in Algeria, the less administrative corruption, and thus an improvement in performance. On the other hand, administrative transparency helps to account for all human resources working in local government (Al-Din, 2020, p. 74). The first accountability is the duty of employees and elected officials at the local level, At the level of local government, to provide regular reports on their work and their success in implementing it, and the right of local citizens to access the necessary information about the work of local government in order to ensure that their work in line with the public interest

Secondly, accountability means that elected officials and those in charge at the local government level are subject to legal, administrative and ethical scrutiny for the results of their completed work. In case of violations that hinder local development efforts (Ammar Qahf Sash al-Alo, 2018, p. 117) is, they are subject to Law 06-01 on corruption prevention and combating it, and the imposition of appropriate punishment according to the type of corruption crimes

committed and specified in its fourth section (Algeria, Law number 06-01, dated February 20, 2006, relates to the prevention of corruption and its combat, 2006, p. 08).

At the same time, they are subject to the provisions of Article (43) of Law 11-10 on municipalities, which stipulates that the representative shall supervise the suspension of any elected official who is subject to judicial follow-up due to a crime or offense related to public money or reasons that tarnish the honor or is subject to judicial measures that do not allow him to continue to exercise his electoral mandate until the final verdict is issued by the competent judicial authority. In case of acquittal, the elected official may return to his duties (Algeria T. D., 2011, p. 11), but the legal text of this article has not been implemented on the ground until the issuance of the Ministry of Interior and Local Communities circular No. 2271 dated June 13, 2019, calling for the implementation of the aforementioned provisions.

4.2 Participatory democracy:

One of the main pillars that central authorities rely on in the process of fighting administrative corruption is participatory democracy, which refers to "the participation of citizens in decisions and policies that have a direct impact on their lives, instead of relying solely on elected members. Therefore, this citizen participation is characterized by direct and active interaction and takes place within small communities so that communication opportunities between the masses are greater" (Aqboub, 2016, p. 204).

Additionally, the contents that participatory democracy carries are the participation of various local community stakeholders through the following (Democracy, p. 11):

A-Media: which represents, for local management, the provision of information related to the management of local affairs as a first step in collaborative work.

B-Consultation: The local administration conducts dialogue with local residents and creates a space for this. Citizens are informed about a specific project or decision that needs to be made and are asked for their opinions in advance. Citizens find themselves in the position of observers, but the local community can direct their options and decisions based on the views and comments they express. Consultation can be used to approve or reject the municipality's proposal, and the decision-making body is responsible for organizing the consultation and informing the results to the people under consultation. The council retains the power of decision-making and citizens do not necessarily have the power to propose solutions to the municipality.

C-Advice: The local administration may be forced to take citizens' proposals into consideration when making decisions and thus consultation allows for the integration of citizens and local stakeholders in a direct and more effective manner when it comes to preparing a decision for a specific project.

D-Taking joint decisions: The local community and citizens make joint decisions on some issues and responsibilities related to local policies and actions. Joint decisions can take two forms:

a-Joint production or partnership: Where the project is prepared jointly and citizens participate in the project with professionals and develop solutions together.

b-Delegation: Where the local authorities delegate part of their power to citizens and accept the implementation of decisions made by them, and transfer the joint decision-making process to direct democracy mechanisms such as local consultations.

In Article 16 of the Algerian Constitution of 2020, it states that the Algerian state is based on principles of democratic representation and separation of powers, guarantees rights and freedoms, and social justice. The elected council is the framework through which the people express their will and oversee the work of public authorities. The state encourages participatory democracy at the local communities, particularly through civil society (Algeria T. P., presidential decree Number 20-442, dated december 30, 2020, relates to the issuance of a constitutional amendment approved in november 2020, 2020, p. 09).

Additionally, Article 11 of the Municipal Law 11-10 states that the municipality represents the institutional framework for practicing democracy at the local level and managing local affairs. The popular council of the municipality takes all measures to inform citizens about their affairs and consult them on economic, social, and cultural development options and priorities. Furthermore, Article 12 of the same law states that the popular council of the municipality works to establish a suitable framework for local initiatives and encourages citizens to participate in resolving their problems and improving their living conditions.

Article 13 of the Municipal Law 11-10 also extends the scope of participation to involve prominent individuals with extensive expertise and experience in managing local affairs, who can benefit the popular council of the municipality in developing its human resources, whether as elected officials or specific appointments. However, article 14 of the same law states that any person who violates the rights and freedoms of citizens or harms public interest shall be excluded from the participation in the local councils (Algeria T. D., 2011, p. 08) In the same context, the municipality can carry out partnership activities with local associations according to a set of goals that are of primary importance in serving the community, this is according to the law of associations number 12-06 in article 17 of it (Algeria T. D., Law number 12-06, dated January 12, 2012, which contains the law of associations, 2012, p. 36)

In order to encourage participatory democracy at the local level, the Algerian state, represented primarily by the Ministry of Interior, Local

Communities and Urban Planning, and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, has joined a project of cooperation with the European Union (EU) and the United Nations Development Programme (PNUD), known as the Local Capacity Development Program (CapDeL). Its duration has been extended from 2016-2020, and it is a program for building effective local capacities in local development in ten model municipalities: Tlemcen, Olad Ben Abdelkader (Chlef), Tizi Ouzou, Bni Mouche (Béjaïa), Djemila (Sétif), El-Khemis (Khenchela), Babar (Khenchela), M'saada (Djelfa), Timimoun (Adrar), and Djanta (Illizi) (Ministry of Interior, 2016-2020, pp. 01-02).

Its value was \$11,702,000 and was divided into:

- Contribution from the European Union valued at \$8,532,000 including 7% for administrative costs equivalent to \$558,168.
- Contribution from the Algerian government valued at \$2,970,000 including 3% for administrative costs equivalent to \$86,505.
- Contribution from the United Nations Development Programme valued at \$200,000.

This program aims to enhance the participation of citizens and civil society in local government and sustainable and integrated local development. Local citizens, civil society, and the private sector are considered active players at the local level. Their participation and response to local public decisions and policies is essential for the success of local government work. Communication between these actors and local government helps to strengthen social relationships and bring in investments, while also promoting democratic participation to achieve local development and improve the performance of local government (Ministry of the Interior, 2016-2020, p. 01).

It is noticed that there is an activation of mechanisms for citizen participation in activities and works of the municipality as defined by the Constitution 2020 and the laws 11-10 and 12-06, as well as what is included in the Capdecad program (Local Capacities Support Program) mentioned above. At the same time, it emphasizes the principle of participatory democracy at the local level. In addition, there is a genuine willingness and desire from the central authority to develop these participatory mechanisms, through the establishment of a consultative body known as the National Observatory for Civil Society, which has moral personality and financial independence and is under the protection of the President of the Republic. The main task of this observatory is to enhance the participation of civil society in political life, in addition to being a mechanism to combat administrative corruption through supervision and mandatory evaluation of the management of local affairs, in addition to working on promoting transparency and integrity in the performance of local government (Algeria T. P., Presidential Decree Number 21-139, dated April 12, 2021, relates to the National Observatory for Civil Society, 2021, p. 12).

4.3 The electronic management:

The electronic management aims to improve the performance of local management by using new electronic methods that are characterized by efficiency, effectiveness and speed. It also affects different levels and makes it able to keep up with the generic and huge development in the field of technology and information systems, and the continuous information revolution. Electronic management represents a strong response to the technological challenges of the 21st century. It has a set of goals and principles including:

-Working to achieve transparency, which helps employees, whether elected or appointed, to obtain new information by communicating with the local management and other administrative interests (Drucker, 1999, p. 164).

-Simplifying procedures within the local management, which reflects positively on the services provided to citizens. This can be achieved by reducing the time and effort required to implement various administrative transactions and providing accuracy and clarity in implementing administrative processes within the institution, This also facilitates communication procedures within the management and reduces the use of papers and handling problems of preservation and documentation.

-Reducing excess labor force by re-training to keep pace with new developments that occurred in the institution, and getting rid of inefficient and incapable employees to adapt to the new situation (Salam, 2003, p. 139).

-Managing and monitoring various administrative interests that belong to the local management, collecting data from their original sources in a unified manner, reducing obstacles to decision-making by providing data and linking it to decision-making centers, This helps in reducing the costs of monitoring various administrative processes, providing data and information to beneficiaries immediately, increasing the link between employees and local management and monitoring all human and material resources (Redwan, 2004, p. 03).

-Reducing administrative and bureaucratic stagnation by increasing the flow of information and reducing the complexity of procedures, in addition to encouraging creativity and innovation among employees (Matei, 2001, p. 69).

All of this is in order to reduce the manifestations of administrative corruption at the level of local government in Algeria, especially in relation to eliminating the phenomenon of laziness and carelessness that is widespread within local government, especially in municipalities that are directly in contact with local citizens. The laxity of employees in performing their duties leads to the disruption of citizens' interests, such as the loss of files or delays in providing services, and also errors made in filling out administrative documents. Also, it aims to counter the entrenched bureaucracy that often relies on the literal application of legal and regulatory texts without any explanation of how to implement them, which widens the gap between the government and citizens.

This often leads to the collapse of the administrative system, its rigidity, complexity of procedures, and weakness in performance.

Conclusion:

The expansion of administrative corruption and its impact on the performance of local government in Algeria is a result of negative human behaviors such as neglect and laziness in performing administrative duties, leaking professional secrets, and refusing to follow a participatory approach in work. All of these factors have developed into various forms such as bribery, embezzlement, fraud, and abuse of power, among others. Additionally, the expansion of these phenomena within local government does not only relate to human factors but also includes oversight institutions, which also bear some responsibility as they have not improved the use of tools for oversight, accounting, and investigation related to fighting corruption and preventing it.

However, this does not deny the existence of political and administrative desire to confront this type of corruption and limit its risks on the performance of local government, especially in light of the existence of a set of mechanisms that started from the administrative transparency mechanism that combines administrative investigation and accounting for administrative employees, and reaching the participatory democratic mechanism that allows for the participation of local stakeholders in monitoring and evaluating performance, in addition to the electronic management mechanism that allows for modernizing the performance of local government and reducing administrative deviations.

All of these mechanisms are an extension of what is provided by Law 06-01 related to the prevention of corruption and combating it, and reaching the National Authority for the Prevention of Corruption and Combatting it, which was abolished and compensated by the Higher Authority for Transparency and the Prevention of Corruption and Combatting it.

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