

**Strategic Intelligence and its Relation to the Process of
Decision-Making in Local Bodies
Case Study
(Hebron and Bethlehem Municipalities)**

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Abstract:

The study examined the strategic intelligence and its relation to the process of decision-making in service institutions located in the south of West Bank from the perspective of its administrative staffs.

The study operated within the comprehensive survey approach by targeting population of the study. Population of the study consisted of all the administrative staff members working in the two municipalities of Hebron and Bethlehem whose number ups to 81 individuals according to official statistics issued by these two municipalities (45 in Hebron and 36 in Bethlehem). Toward this end, 81 questionnaires were distributed, whereas the collected questionnaires were 76. One was excluded as it was invalid to be analyzed. Thus, the sample represented 93% of the entire population of the study.

Reliability of the instrument of the study was calculated through calculating the internal consistency of the items of the questionnaire; Cronbach Alpha coefficient of the entire sample was calculated. Reliability values were as follows: domain of the looking-ahead 0.92, future vision domain 0.95 and the domain of the systematic thinking 0.93. However, the total reliability degree of the entire instrument was 0.97, which indicates high-degree reliability.

The study revealed the following findings:

- 1- The total degree of the local bodies' interest in improving the level of the strategic intelligence of the administrative staff working in the municipalities of Hebron and Bethlehem was medium.
- 2- The total score of the local bodies' interest in improving the strategic intelligence of the administrative staff working in the municipalities of Hebron and Bethlehem attributed to the variable of municipality was in favor of the

municipality of Hebron with a high mean average (3.43), whereas it scored a medium degree (3.02) for the municipality of Bethlehem.

- 3- There was a statistically significant positive relationship between the strategic intelligence averages and the decision-making process among the administrative staffs working in the local bodies of the municipalities of Hebron and Bethlehem.
- 4- Findings of the study also disclosed that the future vision domain came in the first place. Then, the systematic thinking domain, and the ability of decision-making followed. In the fourth place the domain of leadership, and finally the looking-ahead domain.

To sum up, the researcher maintains that municipalities are required to pay more attention to the elements of strategic intelligence as they play a crucial role in promoting the effectiveness of decision-making process. Also, workers in the municipalities should be trained and oriented towards the strategic intelligence to be able to overcome future challenges that may encounter municipalities particularly nowadays in the age of rapid changes in all areas of life.