

# **Identify the role and impact of governance in reducing corruption practices in Palestinian public sector institutions**

**prepared by: Rula Wael Abel hamid Kababji**

**supervised by: Dr. Oroba Al Barghouthi**

## **Abstract**

This study aimed to identify the role and impact of governance in reducing corruption practices in Palestinian public sector institutions. To examine this effect, the researcher adopted the World Bank Governance Indicators (WGI), which were developed by the World Bank in 1996. These indicators are: participation, accountability, political stability, absence of violence, government efficiency, quality of legislation, rule of law, and control of corruption. This study attempts to answer the main question: What is the importance of implementing governance to help reduce corruption in the Palestinian public sector from the point of view of respondents? To answer the study questions and examine its hypotheses, the researcher used the analytical descriptive method in collecting and analyzing data, and a peer-reviewed questionnaire as a tool for the study.

The questionnaire was applied to the sample of the study which was a random sample. Sixteen ministries and institutions were selected out of 38 ministries and institutions, representing % 42 of the whole. Ten employees were selected from each ministry and institution, while taking consideration to the representation according to gender, scientific qualification, job title and years of experience. 140 answered questionnaires were recollected out of 160 distributed.

The study reached several conclusions, including the consensus on the existence of an impact relationship of all governance indicators in reducing corruption in the Palestinian public sector institutions from the point of view of the respondents. The results also showed the effective role of all governance indicators in reducing corruption, where political stability, absence of violence and the rule of law constitute the two most important axes in the reduction of corruption with averages of 3.91 and 3.87 respectively, followed by the government efficiency with an average of 3.78, and then quality of legislation,

control of corruption, and participation and accountability, represented in averages of: 3.7, 3.7 and 3.64 respectively.

The study also found that the governance faces several challenges concerning the Palestinian public sector, including the Israeli occupation and the internal division. However, there has been considerable effort by public sector institutions to help the government cope with these challenges; but are scattered efforts that need to be institutionalized and need legislative and organizational frameworks to ensure their adoption as a Palestinian governmental approach, capable of achieving developmental, economic and social objectives and also capable of reducing corruption.

The study led to several recommendations, including that the governance in the Palestinian public sector institutions should be derived from a comprehensive vision of the political decision-making in Palestine, and the need to launch awareness programs for employees in the public sector institutions and for citizens on the importance of governance as a means of reducing corruption, especially as Palestine is still under construction, and that will facilitate the integration of governance concepts within the country. The Palestinian government should pay great attention to improving and raising its evaluation within the governance indicators of the World Governance Index (WGI), and the need to raise the level of protection for whistleblowers, especially job protection.