

Economic Statistics and Good Governance: A Perception and Exposure Local Corruption Index (PELCI).

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Indices to measure corruption perception play an important role in raising the awareness on the spread of corruption and its trend. International indices are instrumental in comparing countries and in documenting changes across time. The paper suggests a new index that is culture specific and action oriented on the local level. The aim is to complement international indices with national ones that can be used for monitoring and evaluation and for assessing interventions in the area of corruption alleviation. The suggested Perception and Exposure Local Corruption index (PELCI), is a composite index of two indices (PLCI and ELCI) reflecting two: perception of and exposure to corruption. Each index addresses several aspects of corruption. These four aspects are the result of a qualitative expert opinion analysis based on a subjective analysis carried out by a number of sociologists and political scientists. The analysis can reflect a framework of corruption in the Egyptian society but is not necessarily universal. Other societies can use different type and number of manifestations to produce their own index.

The index was calculated for each governorate and sector and then organized in a two dimension table. Governorates are placed in rows and sectors in columns. Two matrices were then produced. The first one (Matrix A) is displaying ranks for governorates within each sector, while the second matrix (Matrix B) is displaying ranks for sectors within each governorate. Matrix A is designed to monitor corruption by line ministries and central agencies, and, Matrix B is designed to monitor corruption by local authorities. Results indicate that the level of corruption perception is higher than the level of exposure on the local level and suggests that corruption has its local aspects that need to be taken into consideration. PELCI can be used to motivate champions of corruption alleviation and to enrich evidence based dialogue on action plan to implement and evaluate specific interventions on the local level.

Key words: accountability, local governance, corruption assessment.