



FACULTY OF SOCIAL SCIENCE

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Program Civics and Ethical Studies

Title; An assessment of the roles of Anti-Corruption Commission in Combating Corruption in Benishangul Gumuz Regional State; the case of Assosa Town.

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ABSTRACT

The purpose of this study is to investigate the roles of anti-corruption commission in combating corruption in Benishangul Gumuz Regional state; the case of Assosa town. In line with this the prime objectives of the study is to examine how much the Bnishangul Gumuz Anti-corruption Commission played the stated roles, what mechanisms employed, what contributions contribute on alleviating corruption and identify what challenges are faced while fighting against corruption in Assosa town. To achieve this purpose and objective both qualitative and quantitative data collection instruments through purposive sampling were conducted with 19 respondents among 94 commission employees, 4 among 6 school directors, 2 among 4 school supervisors, 3 of 4 kebele administrators and 6 of 10 well-known merchants. The analysis of the response showed that; primarily the commission were played a pivotal role on creating awareness through expanding anti-corruption education, tried to impede bad works and corruption offences in government office, exposed the suspected corrupters, tried to minimize expansion of corruption. But eventually it is challenged and getting weak and weak in both preventive and curative approaches of fighting corruption; i.e. weaken in designing serious regulations which obliges to punish corrupters seriously, limited on working the strategic issues, worked with un updated planes and un functionality of their updated plans, lack of personal and organizational commitment, the accountability of the commission to the regional government and the political interventions. Based on my finding I conclude that the Bnishangul Gumuz Regional State Anti-corruption Commission role isn't popularly admired and acceptable because of the weakness of achieving its role on combating corruption and an ability of breaking down the surrounded nearby challenges.

Key terms; *corruption*
curative approach
Preventive approach
Exogenous factor
Endogenous factor

ACRONYMS

ACA;	Anti-corruption Authority
SNNPRS;	South Nation Nationality and Peoples Regional State
IMF;	International Monetary Fund
OECD;	Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development
RTI;	Right to Information
SPC;	Special Penal Code
ECA;	Economic Commission for Africa
FDRE;	Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia
IER;	Independent Evaluation Report
PSRC;	Policy Study and Research Center
GERD;	Grand Ethiopian Renaissance Dam
UN HRC;	United Nation Human Right Commission
PR;	Public Relation
BGRS ACC (B/G/R/S ACC);	Benishangul Gumuz Regional State Anti-Corruption Commission
WPCC;	Working Peoples Revolution Control Committee
EPRDF;	Ethiopian People Revolutionary Democratic Front
FEACC;	Federal Ethics and Anti-Corruption Commission
TPLF;	Tigrian Peoples Liberation Front
TI;	Transparency International

METEC; Metal and Engineering Corporation

CSRP; Civil Service Reform Program

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CHAPTER ONE

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Back grounds of the study

This research report binding is conducted to study on the role of ACC in the Benishangul Gumuz Regional State Assosa town. In our global world corruption has been deep rooted parts of our social, economic and political life since ancient times in developed, developing and the poor countries across the globe. As corruption becomes increasingly sophisticated in its way of committing systems to fight against; it demands a well-integrated and multi-disciplinary strategy. In this regard, more and more governmental and international actors are creating specialized entities to combat corruption. These entities, usually called watch dog agencies, anti-corruption authorities (ACAs), Anti-corruption commission & Auditor general come in different forms. However, the mere creation of such entities does not in itself eradicate the source of corruption because the watchdog Agencies are usually highly politicized the corruptness of the regime and coverage of the society. Therefore, in order to fight widespread, endemic corruption, there needs to implement complementary government reforms that address the principal sources of corruption in higher government offices, public sector institutions & grand projects officials. In our country Ethiopia corruption is rooted back since ancient times. different regimes of Ethiopian governments starting from early years & days of imperial rule corruption is eventually increase in its kind and systems of application. But currently in the EPDRF ruling system corruption is severely worsened and widely spread. AS we have been looking popular grievances, uprisings and wide spread popular insurgencies in 2008 – 2011 E.C especially in Amhara, south nation nationalities peoples & Oromiya regional state; it is due to the governments systems of rampant corruption and devilish (evil) system of violation of human right. Even though there has been conducted different researches on corruption and human right violation by different scholars and stakeholder institutions or organizations but the government is still keep silent. Due to the wide and unstopped popular insurgency the government declares state of emergency two times, but eventually the Prime Minister Hylemariam Desaly resigned and Doctor Abiy Ahmed replaced. As soon as he replaced he takes different reforms among that corruption is his main standing issue due to that on January 3,2011,E.C; different corruption offences especially

which is highly rifled institution METEC officials are elicited in public media and accounted in federal higher court. Look this how much corruption is rampant in our country Ethiopia starting from ancient to recent times and from kebele level, in each regions of Ethiopia up to federal higher officials. This bad and rooted corruption initiates me to pose the question what are the roles of Federal ethics and anti-corruption commission in B/G/R/S Assosa town. As parts of one state Benishangul Gumuz Regional state also a place where corruption reaches rampant. So this study will be trying to investigate the roles played by the commission in BGRS Assosa town.

1.2 STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM

Different scholars and researchers have been conducted research about globally challenging problem i.e. corruption in their different understanding and wishes to the issue. To combat this sophisticated or structural problem scholars and institutions are viewed indifferent manner. Among that Ethiopian Federal Ethics and Anti-corruption commission is the one organization which is organized to fight against corruption. This institution is institutionalized in two self-administrative city states (Addis Abeba & Drie Dawa) and nine self-administration regional states of Ethiopia. Benishangule Gmuz regional State ACC is organized under the proclamation number 70/2000 E.C and dawn its work in July1/2000. In order to balance the current anti-corruption duty and responsibility the previous proclamation had improved under proclamation no 133/2008 and worked its work in the region. But it is also challenged to solve the problem. So due to the scarcity of solving the problem and unable to achieve its initially stated aim or objective scholars pose questions in different perspective and conduct researches: Corruption in Ethiopia: A Merely Technical Problem or a Major Constitutional Crisis? Zamalek Ayitenew Ayele International Journal of Graduate Research and Review A. M. Aldo and A. Zeleke (2017), Assessing the Effectiveness of Ethics Liaison Units in Combating Corruption: The Case of Hadiya Zone, SNNPRS of Ethiopia. Dr. Minhaj Alam (PhD) Associate Professor School of Governance and Development Studies Hawassa University Hawassa, Ethiopia , Corruption in Service Delivery of Municipals in Metekel Zone Weredas Capital Towns; North West Ethiopia by Atnafu Morka Aldo and Abebe Zeleke, Department of Geography and Environmental studies; Assosa University,Ethiopia OECD (2007), Specialized Anti-Corruption Institutions Reviews of Models, OECD Anti-Corruption Network for East Europe and central Asia, Pope, Jeremy and Vogl Frank (2000), Making Anticorruption Agencies More Effective, IMF, Volume 37, Number Transparency Ethiopia (2008), Corruption diagnostic Baseline survey report and the like.

Things that motivates me to study on BGRS ACCs role on combating corruption are due to the rampant (evilness) of corruption in Benishangul Gumuz Regional state specifically on its capital city Assosa town. This pose the following questions on my mind; why peoples of Assosa town are criticize BGRS ACC? Why most cases of prisoners in Assosa are corruption related? What are the roles of BGRS ACC being there in Assosa? Is it properly performs its own role, aim or objective? And if it is why corruption is wide spread and systemically grows even overnight? Such unresponsive questions and repetitive problems bring me to study my research on assessing the roles of BGRS ACC on combating corruption in the case of Assosa town. On the area that those researchers are not conducted on such cases that I'm motivated to studied.

1.3 RESEARCH QUESTION

This study is addressed the following research questions.

What are the contributions of BGRS Anti-Corruption commission in combating Corruption in Assosatown?

What are the mechanisms employed by BGRS Anti-Corruption commission in combating Corruption in Assosa town?

To what extent are effective the roles played by BGRS Anti-Corruption commission in combating corruption in Assosa town?

What are the challenges BGRS Anti-Corruption Commission faced while fighting against Corruption in Assosa town?

1.4. OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

From this study the researcher is successfully dialed and investigated the following general and specific objectives as listed follow.

1.4.1. GENERAL OBJECTIVE

The general objective of my study is: Assessing the roles and challenges of Anti-Corruption Commission in Combating Corruption the Case of Assosa Town, Benishangul Gumuz Regional State.

1.4.2 SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES

The specific objectives of soft this study is: -

- ➡ To examine the contributions of Anti-Corruption Commission in combating corruption in BGRS particularly in the BGRS capital city, Assosa.
- ➡ To identify the mechanisms employed by Anti-Corruption Commission in combating corruption in BGRS particularly in the BGRS capital city Assosa.
- ➡ To evaluate how match the roles are played by Anti-Corruption Commission in combating Corruption in BGRS particularly in Assosa town.
- ➡ To identify the challenges encountered while BGRS Anti-Corruption Commission while fighting against corruption in Assosa

1.5 SCOPS OF THE STUDY

Corruption is a vast and deep rooted problem in the world as well as in our country Ethiopia. But this study due to scarcity of financial resources and time limitation the scope of the study is delimited in both typically, geographically and organizationally. Typically, it is limited on assessing the role of Benishangul Gumuz Reginal State (BGRS) in Assosa town. Geographically it is delimited from Ethiopia to Benishangul Gumuz Reginal State (BGRS) specifically in Assosa town. Organizationally Anti-Corruption commission is selected among stake holder institutions which are responsible for fighting corruption. Specifically on the role of anti-corruption commission in combating corruption in Assosa town. It is conducted in 2011 E.C.

1.6 SIGNIFICANCE OF THE STUDY

Fighting corruption is not one time campaign and not leaved for one entity (government, anti-corruption commission, or for others) rather it needs the whole popular active involvement to fight against from the very beginning. Different European countries and Some Asian countries are bringing corruption under control by large active popular involvement (campaign), commitments of stake holders and implementations of research findings. So this research study was investigated for the sake of getting the following multi directional significances:-

To the researcher it helps to know or understand about the role of Anticorruption commission with deep understand.

To other researcher I as a researcher believes that this study will helpful for those readers and researchers as a standing point in the area to have some understandings of the underplaying challenges. In today public sector institutions, government organizations and in the grand projects of the country. It could serve as a further research studies as a reference for those who are interested to deal the roles and effectiveness of other branches of Anti-corruption commission in different regions of Ethiopia like Benishangul Gumuz regional state in undertaking the challenges and experiments in fighting against corruption.

To the organization the researcher hopes or believes this study will serve as a bell sound for the works of Anti-corruption commission in B/G/R/S Assosa. And it helps to indicate its achievements, challenges, weakness and roles played by the institution (ACC in BGRS). It also helps to strengthen their plan by taking the research recommendation as an input.

TO the country at large: - Here also as a researcher this study glows as the wide spread problems which taking our country Ethiopia. We the 21st cgenerations and the current leaders have been subjected to several challenges and also opportunities. It will help the countries policy makers and other stake holders to frame the ACC policy framework.

1.7 ORGANIZATIONS

This study is organized in to five chapters under chapter one the background or the introductory part will be introduced, statement of the problem, research question, objectives of the study, significance and organizations of the study will include. Under chapter two related review literatures are deeply discussed. Under chapter three the research methodologies are deeply discussed under chapter four the data analysis, interpretation, conclusion and recommendations are dealt.

CHAPTER TWO

2. RELATED REVIEW LITRATURE

2.1 THE CONCEPTUAL DEFINITIONS OF CORRUPTION

As we know in social science discipline (discourse) terms and concepts are difficult to delimit one or single universally accepted definition. Like among those concepts corruption is also broad and difficult concept to give single and universally satisfactory definition. Because what may seem to be corrupt in one society may not necessarily be perceived as such in another society, organization and scholars as well. Even though it is difficult there have been different attempts to define it as follow: - The concept of corruption is a value-oriented concept. It is difficult to discuss it without emphasizing its moral aspects. Etymologically, the word corrupt is derived from the Latin word “corrupts also spelled “corruptio” which means “moral decay, wicked behavior, putridity or rottenness” or in short it refers to “to abuse or to destroy ” In philosophical and theological discussions, corruption is spiritual, moral impurity or deviation from an ideal.

In the words of Transparency International, “Corruption is one of the greatest challenges of the contemporary world. It undermines good government, fundamentally distorts public policy, leads to the misallocation of resources, harms the private sector and private sector development and particularly hurts the poor”. Yahaya define corruption as "any act by a public official which violates the accepted standard of behavior in order to serve private or selfish-ends. The end which the behavior will serve may be social, economic or political". The World Bank, define corruption as “the misuse of public office for private gain. It arises when individuals or firms pay bribes to public officials to facilitate legal transactions”. This definition is not all inclusive because it ignores the private sector on the one hand and the abuses of public power is not always for ones private benefit but it can be for the benefit of one’s party, class, tribe, friend, family on the other hands. Public office is abused through rent seeking activities for private gain when an official accepts, solicits, or extorts a bribe. Public office can also be abused for personal benefit even if no bribery occurs, through patronage and nepotism, the theft of state assets or the diversion of state resources. In an elaborate analysis, Alatas (1990) as cited in (Obayelu, 2007) divided corruption into seven distinct types: autogenic, defensive, extortive, invective, nepotistic, supportive, and transitive. Autogenic corruption is self-generating and typically involves only the perpetrator. Defensive corruption involves situations where a person needing a critical service is compelled to bribe in order to prevent

unpleasant consequences being inflicted on his interests. Extortive corruption is the behavior of a person demanding personal compensation in exchange for services. Invective corruption entails the offer of goods or services without a direct link to any particular favor at the present, but in anticipation of future situations when the favor may be required. Nepotistic corruption refers to the preferential treatment of, or unjustified appointment of friends or relations to public office, in violation of the accepted guidelines. The supportive type usually does not involve money or immediate gains, but involves actions taken to protect or strengthen the existing corruption. Finally, transitive corruption refers to situations where the two parties are mutual and willing participants in the corrupt practice to the advantage of both parties. All of these imply that there is no universally accepted definition of the term corruption. Defining corruption is notoriously difficult to do.

In their 1910 law dictionary, authors Shumaker and Longsdorf described corruption as “An act done with intent to give some advantage inconsistent with official duty and the rights of others. It includes bribery but is more comprehensive because an act may be corruptly done, though the advantage to be derived from it may be offered by another.”

In her 2011 article on corruption published in the Canadian law journal, *The Advocate*, Karen Katz writes; "Corruption is understood to be the exploitation of a position of trust. Typically, in the public sector, in order to receive a private gain, which may or may not be financial? "Corruption is not a simple issue of right and wrong, and conditions that encourage public officials to seek out or accept corruption include;

- (a) The expected gains from undertaking a corrupt act exceed the expected costs and
- (b) Little weight is placed on the costs that corruption imposes on others.

In *Nixon v Shrink Missouri Gove*, Justice Souter of the United States Supreme Court uses these words: "Corruption is a subversion of the political process. Elected officials are influenced to act contrary to their obligations of office by the prospect of financial gain to themselves or infusions of money into their campaigns.

As I review different literatures, scholars and organizations definition of corruption, it seems corruption is usually defined as “an illegal act that involves the abuse of a public trust or office for some private benefit”, or “the misuse of public office for private gain.”

2.1.2. THE CAUSES OF CORRUPTION

In our society in one or other way the following are Main Causes of Corruption that we are repeatedly encountered.

1. Low Pay scales/ Wages: Most of the employees in government sector are paid low wages and salaries. Hence some employees revert to corruption for more financial benefits.
2. Low Job opportunities. This is another cause of corruption. Due to lack of job opportunities at will, there are many people who like to go for corruption mode to get the job offer. They will be ready to pay lump sum amounts for the job offer to the higher officials or politicians.
3. Lack of Strict and fast punishments: Even if someone is found guilty or even caught red-handed by the anti-corruption officials or media, the convicts get less punishment. First they will be suspended for few months or weeks and then re- posted to another location with same Job grade and pay. So this means the official who did the corrupt practice is given a free license to continue his practice. If the government is so strict that any such corrupt incidents will lead to permanent removal from job and also punishment like several years' imprisonment, then the corruption will come down to a large extent.
4. Lack of ill fame (having a bad reputation): If a person is found to be corrupt or has done some unacceptable misconduct, he or she has to be avoided and not be respected. But currently, those with corruption and other offense related history are given prominent positions like the Member of Parliament or even higher posts. Instead of being disrespected they are respected.
5. Lack of Unity in public: Public openly criticize corruption but interestingly there is no unity among the public to stop corruption. If a person wants to get his done his work, he gets it done by corruption means if possible and then later criticizes the corrupt official. If the public stands united against corruption in such a way that no one is ready to offer bribes to get their work done, then the corrupt officials will have no other option but to work in corruption free manner. During election, politicians try to lure the people by offering money and other things. If these politicians win and get power, they try to regain 10 to 100 times the amount spent for their elections.
6. Lack of transparency in affairs and deals: Many seat selection processes like in education, contracts for job, employee income reports (wealth possession), and etc lack transparency.

For this purpose, there is a new Indian act namely Right to Information (RTI): Right to Information, but the act is not strong enough to prevent malpractices.

7. Lack of Independent detective agency: Lack of independent detective agency to investigate with full power and freedom to expose the corrupt individuals. The existing Agencies are under the control of either the government or the armies and are not free to work. Hence anyone who commits offense will not be afraid of the investigation as they can escape from it by taking help of those controlling them.

8. Lack of state funding to elections: State funding for elections is a best way to beat corruption. Political parties receive party funds and will not disclose it to the fullest. In doing so, they encourage corruption. They receive massive funds from industrialists with a promise to help when in power. Presence of state funding can abolish party fund culture and minimize the corruption.

9. Option of many political parties: In democracy anyone can establish a political party. So there are chances for eruption of many political parties in the country. If a political party wins, then the party members will desire to expand the party to all over the country. To do so, they need enough financial reserves. For this, once they come into power, they opt for corrupt means to make the wealth needed to expand the party.

10. Lack of enough powers to the judicial system and other independent organization. Like the election commission cannot ban a politician from contesting in case they make a mistake or do not comply with the rules during election campaign (like distributing money to people etc). Similarly, the judicial system has low options to punish someone who is found to be.

11. Lack of accountability: In government there is a big trend of corruption. This is because of lack of accountability. The employees on government offices do not perform to their par excellence. If they receive 100 files to be cleared in a week they may not even clear 50 of them in that week. They tend to post-pone the clearance of the files. So those who are in urgency of the clearance have to get them done by rewarding the officials involved in the clearance office. This lack of accountability in government offices is chief cause of corruption.

12. Encouragement of unhealthy competition: Competition in business is a good sign for quality of service to be delivered. But in poor nations there is encouragement of unhealthy competition. When

there is a tender, you can notice that only few companies bid for it. This is because the companies having political relations have higher chances of winning while others do not. So, companies with no political influence will not bid for the tender in spite of being a good company. That is here the number of bidders for a tender will be low due to political interference. These causes of corruption have to be eliminated for better growth of the nation. In addition to these the followings are also counted as the cause of corruption as available researches show that the causes of corruption are diverse and depend on the different contextual environments. TI held that corruption is rearing its ugly head in more and more severe ways due to “the weakening of social values, with the broader public interest and social responsibility being subordinated to the enhancement of material status in the personal ethics of many”. Besides, lack of transparency and accountability in the public integrity systems are contributing factors for corruption. There is also a biblical explanation for the causes of corruption. After Adam broke the law and committed sin to his posterity, what follows upon this is, “the corruption of nature derived unto them from him”; by which is meant, “The general depravity of mankind, of all the individuals of human nature, and of all the powers and faculties of the soul, and members of the body”. As Human nature is imperfect and egotistic corruption will exist in all human endeavors. Selfishness and greed are the constituting elements of human imperfection which leads to corruption.

The economic causes of corruption are related to pecuniary considerations, representing corruption that is need-driven as opposed to greed driven. This assertion is further confirmed by TI in attributing poverty and low salary as causes of corruption. Inflation (living cost) and inability to maintain one’s family lives forces officials to compromise public trust and honesty for some fringe benefits. Institutional causes of corruption include “monopoly and wide discretionary powers for public officers, poor accountability, lack of effective and efficient enforcement of the law, absence of institutional mechanisms to deal with corruption, existence of a weak civil society, and the absence of press freedom”.

Klitgaard shares the same view with Ringera by holding that corruption is prevalent when “someone has monopoly power over a good or service, has the discretion to decide whether you receive it and how much you get, and is not accountable”. The political causes of corruption arise from the structure and functions of political institutions, and the acquisition and exercise of political power.

2.1.3 TYPES OR FORMS OF CORRUPTION

This sophisticated and multitude problem happens (occurs) in different kind, forms and circumstances. But there are some common types or forms of corruption which recur in every system. These are grand corruption, petty corruption, political corruption, Economic corruption and social corruption

Petty corruption is an everyday abuse of entrusted power by low and mid-level public officials in their interactions with ordinary citizens, who often are trying to access basic goods or services in places like hospitals, schools, police departments and other agencies. It is a situation where a public official demands or expects money for doing an act which he or she is ordinarily required by law to do, or when a bribe is paid to obtain services which the official is prohibited from providing.

Grand corruption occurs when a high level government official committed acts that “distort policies or the central functioning of the state, enabling him/her to benefit at the expense of the public good”. It is a form of corruption which pervades the highest levels of a national government, leading to a broad erosion of confidence in good governance, rule of law and economic stability. It distorts the functioning of the central government.

Political corruptions are one of the most notable crimes of the modern era. Cases of unscrupulous politicians and the abuse of power are surprisingly common. The following list explains some of the most common types of political corruption that can occur in all levels of government. Any action that circumvents the established rules for conducting government business may be considered political corruption. In the American system of government, citizens cast votes for the candidate that they believe will most reliably accomplish the business of governance. This system implies a high amount of trust between elected officials and their constituents. Any official that uses the power of an elected political office for personal gain or for a personal agenda is abusing the trust of that office. Such actions are considered political corruption.

1) Payoffs and Bribes – Bribery may be one of the most common types of political corruption. By definition, bribery is the act of giving money, goods or services to an official in exchange for favorable treatment. For example, a local building contractor may pay thousands of dollars to a city council member to be the first choice for a permit to begin a new development contract.

2) Graft and Embezzlement – Some elected officials are tasked with the oversight of large sums of money. This money may be earmarked for local projects like building renovation or development contracts. If the official overseeing these projects diverts some of that money into their personal accounts, they have committed an act of embezzlement. This activity is also known as “graft.” It can occur anytime an official chooses to use funds owned by another person or group for their own personal benefit.

3) Blackmail and Extortion – Political offices can provide their officials with a great deal of power. When an official uses their power and influence to threaten another person into behaving a certain way, the official is committing political extortion. Political blackmail is a related crime. This type of corruption can occur when an elected representative threatens to reveal incriminating information about someone in order to coerce that person into cooperating with them.

2.2 CORRUPTION IN ETHIOPIA

2.2.1 The Historical Background

2.2.1 Corruption during the early days of imperial rule

As Different written literatures read; for centuries, Ethiopia was under traditional rule in which small governing elites controlled over the nation’s resources. One cause for failure of different Ethiopian monarchies to build any kind of administrative framework through which they could exercise their absolute power is the absence of centralized political leadership (Paulos, 2000 as cited in Shimelis, 2005: p.63). In the absence of centralized political system, it is unlikely to mobilize resources for balanced development of the country. As Berihun (2000) stated, during those times, in various parts of the country, tax was collected from the people but utilized in the interest of regional lords. This hindered fair and equitable distribution of wealth causing abject poverty (Korajian, 2003). It is not only corruption that is deep-rooted in Ethiopian culture. There are certain indicators for the existence of anti-corruption measures as well. In this regard, Emperor Theodor’s deserves to be mentioned. According to Berihun (2000), Theodor’s was keen or devoted to change the situation, though time was not in his favor. Mahitemesillasie pointed out that Emperor Theodor’s was the first ruler who understood the nature of the evil and established an organ of control known as office of the “Tear Watcher” or “office of complaints” (Belachew, 2001 as cited in Shimelis, 2005). According to Belachew, “Theodros was so concerned that disguised in tattered clothes used to go

outhunting for officials noted for abusing their public office. Unfortunately, the system of control, which he tried to institutionalize did not last long, it died with him.” The history of modern public administration in Ethiopia goes back to 1907 when Menilik created the first cabinet, which consisted of 12 ministries. “The Emperor Menilik, keenly interested in the new world suddenly impinging upon his country and determined to modernize his administration upon European lines, began creation of ministries” (Paulos, 2000). According to Haileselassie (1969), Menilik’s intention in modernizing public administration was to protect and motivate the peasants, business people and workers; to secure justice to the people; to provide education to children; to enhance international relations of the country; to protect the people from dangers and govern according to the law; and to introduce European modernization. However, the ministers were not salaried; and their appointment was based on their loyalty and the followers they could mobilize during wartime (Asmelash cited in Paulos, 2000). As a result, with growing public power, corruption began to flourish, which explains Lord Acton’s well-known saying, “power tends to corrupt and absolute power corrupts absolutely”. During their stay for 10 years in public office, the ministers could not manage either themselves or the people. As a result, they had been denied the chance of staying in their offices longer. On Megabit 12, 1910 (EC), the people of Ethiopia crowded on the streets and marched to the palace and requested Empress Zewditu and Teferi Mekonen to dismiss the ministers from their offices for they abused the public trust. Then, the Empress was forced to take corrective measure and, hence, removed the ministers from their posts and a year after formed a body of notable elders to serve her as counselors (Haileselassie 1969). Another event of early days of imperial Ethiopia relates to the anti-corruption measures associated with tax collection. Tax collection is, in fact, susceptible to corruption in every society. Particularly, the problem is very severe in traditional societies with agrarian economies. As a means of deterrence, the government of the day had kept on introducing new regulations that functioned until 1928 E.C.

2.2.2 Corruption during the Reign of Emperor Haileselassie

Modern public administration in Ethiopia is instituted during Emperor Haileselassie era. According to Berihun (2000), it is during this era that tax collected from different parts of the country began to be centrally administered and monthly payment for administrators and civil servants began to be disbursed in the form of salary. As a result, the strong power and the autonomy of the provincial governors came to an end. As a way of laying down the foundation of the modern bureaucracy, especially in the 1960s, the importance of efficient administrative system was highly recognized.

The civil service appeared to be accepted as the major instrument available to government for promoting economic and social development (Paulos, 2000). However, because of political interference in administrative affairs it became very problematic to adhere to civil service rules and regulations. Subsequently, what used to be in the past decades, as a sign of respect, had become a means of living. The covert practice soon became an open exercise from the ‘gatekeeper to the top officials’ involved in the practice openly and glaringly. It became so difficult even to carry out routine business without coming across or involved in the very act. Misadministration, excessive taxation and corruption, in general, became rampant (Korajian, 2003). Virtually, all heads of government denounce corruption and call for laws and measures to control it. Yet with few exceptions, these laws are flouted or selectively enforced (Gould, 1991). The main anti-corruption legal instrument of the day in Ethiopia was the Penal code of 1957. Enacting law is not enough. The laws have to be implemented and to serve their purpose. As Christopher Clapham stated “the measures legislated were not applied effectively except in glaring cases where it is obvious that failure to apply the law could invite public outcry” (Clapham 1969 cited in Belachew 2001). In fact, the 1957 Penal Code is not deficient by itself. Although one does not find the widely accepted definition of corruption as is currently understood, it contains legal provisions for combating corruption here and there (Belachew 2001). Breach of official duties (Art. 412), abuse of power (Art. 414), appropriation and misappropriation of public property (Art. 422), corrupt practices (Art. 425 and 437), extortion (Art. 226), maladministration (Art.420), traffic in official influence (Art. 424), political corruption (Art. 462-468), and other corrupt practices (Art. 641, 642, and 656), are mentioned in the Penal Code. Notwithstanding these, however, the Code is not free from weaknesses. According to Larbi (1999), the Code is defective as far as dealing with unethical behavior in the public service is concerned. It is considered too detailed to be effectively enforceable. And it is too lenient to offenders portraying great imbalance between offences and prescribed punishment.

2.2. 3 Corruption under the Dergue

The Dergue regime was a centrally controlled government based on communist ideology. This ideology, according to Bamidele Olowu (1996 as cited in Shimelis, 2005), forced the regime to question the basis of the accepted norms and codes of behavior in Ethiopian society and this eroded ethics and morality in the civil service in particular and society in general. During this period, the

Ethiopian bureaucracy became very corrupt and parastatal firms such as the Agricultural Marketing Corporations dominated transactions in agricultural products causing total economic failure (Korajian 2003). Still as a means of measures against corruption, the Dergue regime promulgated the Special Penal Code (SPC) from the outset in November 1974. The SPC was necessitated because the administrative and political orientation reflected in the Penal Code of 1957 permitted leniency to perpetrators of some grave offences with light punishment. The purpose of the SPC was, therefore, to facilitate the implementation of changed situations required by the revolution, which included imposition of highest penalties for grave offences caused by greedy officials and sanctioned confiscation of any property or wealth obtained by illegal means (Proclamation No. 8/74). Furthermore, with the intention of tackling corruption and other unethical behaviors including abuse of power, disregard and mishandling of public property, fraud, favoritism, bribery and other illegal acts, the SPC of 1974 was substituted by the Revised Special Penal Code Proclamation No. 214/81. Chapter II of this code provided for various offences, including: breach of trust and receipt of ill-gotten gain (Art. 13), misuse of public property (Art. 14), refusal to pay public tax or dues (Art.15), offences against the economy such as hoarding of goods and counterfeiting (Art. 18), smuggling(Art. 19), corrupt practices, acceptance of undue advantage and abuse of official influence, and soliciting corrupt practices (Art. 20/21). Chapter III dealt with various forms of abuse of authority and official duties such as failure to supervise subordinates, procurement of undue advantage, extortion, and unlawful arrest and detention. The basic difference between these legislations is, however, not based on the definition of corruption as such. It was rather on administering of punishments.

In the case of the latter, more serious punishments are provided. In fact, it is hardly possible to expect declining of corruption only by taking the measure of punishment. Had this been the fact, there would have been no corruption in China at all, where punishment is most severe. Action Professional Association for the People (2001) argues that the provisions in the Penal Code are not defective as such. The problem lies in absence of competent institutions and lack of evidence against perpetrators. Still, the problem goes beyond this in the sense that political commitment is the basic prerequisite for the anti-corruption crusade. In its attempt to create a new ethical foundation built on socialist ideology, the Dergue tried to institute measures to check corruption by establishing the Working People's Control Committee (WPCC) in 1981 (Proclamation No. 213/81). Later on, the institution was re-established declaring that the establishment of such control system is one of the

manifestations of socialist democracy, which enables the broad masses to properly participate among other things in governmental administration, which includes fighting corruption (Proclamation No. 12/87). In practice, through the political structures, political cadres went on intervening and making decisions in the civil service leaving no room for professionals. As a result, corruption, serious operational problems, inefficiency and other administrative problems reached their peak (Paulos 2000 as cited in Shimelis, 2005). The WPCC, with all powers and responsibilities entrusted to it, and the Special Court which administered ‘justice’ under the Revised Special Penal Code (1981), could not make a difference. Larbi (2000) expresses the situation as follows: “The special agencies had extensive powers to investigate, prosecute and punish alleged offenders. This earlier attempt, however, largely failed to address the problem of corruption and is believed to have rather worsened the situation.” Question may arise as to why the previous attempt of anti-corruption initiative under Dergue regime failed. According to Larbi (1999) and Yehyis (2002 as cited in Shimelis, 2005), the following explanations are provided:

Politicization and abuse of power; the body that was supposed to tackle corruption, the WPCC, was itself fraught with abuse and corruption. The Committee became a political weapon against perceived opponents or ‘enemies’ of the revolution, whilst some of the members were themselves corrupt.

Lack of coherent and clear policy framework; the measures were one-sided and parochial, and did not form part of a larger reform of the public services. The populist mobilization measures of the regime did not address the fundamental problems of public administration in the country, which include over-centralized and cumbersome procedures, over-politicization, archaic personnel management practices, poor pay and service conditions, weak mechanisms for enforcing ethical codes, non-involvement of civil society and the public in anticorruption activities, etc. (ECA 1996).

Lack of a holistic and interrelated approach; linked to the above point, there was overemphasis on investigation and prosecution under the SPC and the Special Court. Preventive measures and public education on the evils of corruption and the need for soliciting public support were seriously underplayed as part of the moves necessary to combat corruption.

Quality and Commitment of Anti-Corruption Agency Staff; the success of anti-corruption measures depends on the quality and commitment of staff of watchdog agencies. Staff members of such

agencies should be of highest quality in terms of skills, experience, and ethical behavior. In contrast, what was required of the members of the Committee was not merit but political loyalty.

2.2.4 Corruption under the Ethiopian People’s Revolutionary Democratic Front (EPRDF) Rule

The EPRDF-led government came to power in 1991. In the post-1991 Ethiopia, “corruption remained one of the ills that undermined efforts towards societal transformation” (IER, 2001 as cited in Shimelis, 2005: p.69). Since the time of framing the FDRE-Constitution, the Ethiopian Federal government launched the Civil Service Reform Program (CSRP) in late-1994 with the establishment of a special Task Force staffed by 23 senior government officials and civil servants. The task force came up with ‘comprehensive’ report after its 15 months’ study conducted at the federal and ‘woreda or district levels. The report identified problems of the country's civil service and included recommendations for changes and capacity building in five key areas, namely, i) Expenditure Management and Control, ii) Human Resources Management, iii) Service Delivery, iv) Top Management Systems, and v) Ethics. The Government endorsed the report and officially launched the Ethiopian CSRP in March 1996 with an overall objective of providing fair, transparent, efficient, effective and ethical civil service for the Government and people of Ethiopia (CSRP, 1998 as cited in Shimelis, 2005).

Furthermore, line institutions have extremely weak control systems in important areas of finance and human resource management leaving room for unethical practices. To make the reform on ethics following a holistic approach under the Ethics Sub-Program, six projects were designed and implemented. These were: i) Development of codes of practice and a legislative framework; ii) Establishment of a central body on ethics in government; iii) Strengthening the capacity of police, prosecutors, and judiciary; iv) Strengthening the capacity of mass media; v) Development of education on ethics in government, and vi) corruption survey. Further, each project had been broken down to series of components (CSRP, 1998). Critics say that reform initiatives of a comprehensive nature had to be well diagnosed and refined. According to Paulos (2000), while the Council of Ministers had to discuss and review therefore, it failed to do so. Moreover, the influence of expatriate coordinators in the process of design of the projects was immense. The reform measure lacks necessary conditions which include well-developed bureaucratic structure with competent personnel, proper governance environment, participation of those who are to be affected, favorable

attitude, and strong institutional framework. The reform program is, generally, donor-driven and is implemented as condition for economic assistance. Institutionalization and implementation of reform outputs is, still, a great challenge than designing reform. Post-2002 years in Ethiopia saw wide spread establishment of regional ethics and anti-corruption commissions to fight corruption crimes in their respective jurisdictions. Each regional anti-corruption office has autonomy in managing its own operations and budgets.

In 2001, a political division arose within the Tigray People Liberation Front (TPLF), arguably the core the Ethiopian People's Revolutionary Democratic Front (EPRDF), the ruling party and a coalition of four ethnic-based regional parties. There was a disagreement between the late Prime Minister Meles Zenawi (also the former Chair of both EPRDF and TPLF) and some of the top brass of TPLF. The true cause of the dispute still remains unclear. It is clear though that Meles faced strong opposition from some of the most senior party members, including Gebru Asrat (the former president of Tigray, one of Ethiopia's nine states), and Siye Abraha (the then Minister of Defense). Some of the leaders of the other three constituent units of EPRDF also sided with the dissenters as the division spread to these parties. This led Meles to undertake an extensive political 'purge' within the TPLF and the other EPRDF member parties. 'Dissenters' were expelled from TPLF and, therefore, EPRDF. Those among the dissenters who had been elected to national and regional representative councils representing the party were informed that they had been 'recalled by their constituencies' and were dismissed from those councils.

In addition, some of the dissenters, including Siye Abraha, were charged with corruption and jailed. When Siye was first brought to court on charge of corruption, the sitting judge released him on bail. He was however rearrested at the gate of the court. The judge who released him on bail was swiftly removed from the criminal bench of the Federal First Instance Court. Furthermore, shortly after Siye was rearrested, a bill was tabled in Parliament which sought to prevent courts from releasing on bail anyone who was accused of corruption. Parliament enacted this, constitutionally suspect, 6 bill the same day as a proclamation. This proclamation was retroactively applied to keep in prison Siye and Meles's other political opponents.⁸

Fast forward to 2015, the federal Policy Study and Research Centre (PSRC), in collaboration with the Ministry of Public Civil Service and Human Resource Development, conducted a study on the level of good governance in the country. The result of the study was presented to the Council of

Ministers, in the presence of the Prime Minister. The report depicted a gloomy picture of the situation relating to governance in the country. Soon after this report was made public, protests began in Oromia, the largest and the most populous region of the country. The protests were allegedly triggered by the Addis Ababa Master Plan which sought to create an infrastructural link between Addis Ababa and the nearby towns of Oromia. The protests rapidly spread to the other regions, in particular the Amhara region, the second largest and populous region in the country. The immediate cause of the protests in this region was linked to the dispute on whether Wolqait, a district in Tigray bordering the Amhara region, should be re-demarcated within the territorial jurisdiction of the latter. The public protests, especially those in Oromia, went on for over 10 3 appointed would stand to regret when dismissed. This is to mean that one is likely to regret when out of office if he/she has not used his official position for gaining as much personal advantage as he/she could. The common type of corruption in the country was what is often referred to as petty corruption, such as giving presents, in the form of cattle or some other agricultural produce, to a judge by one who is involved in a litigation to ensure that the judge decides in his/her favor. Bribing local administrators in a similar fashion was also common. Grand corruption, ‘in the form of embezzlement of public funds, misuse of power and failure of duty for personal gain’, began to creep in during reign of the Haile-Selassie and worsened during the Derg’s regime. However, it was not as prevalent as it is now in the country. A disturbing trend of pervasiveness of corruption is seen in the past two decades. The past consecutive reports of Transparency International (TI) put Ethiopia among the highly corrupt countries in the world despite the improvements of its ranks in the TI’s reports from one year to the next. Ethiopia was ranked 116, 120, 113, 111, and 110 out of 176 countries in the TI’s 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013 and 2014 reports, respectively.¹⁴ The TI’s 2016 report ranks Ethiopia 108 out of 176 countries. In this report, the country scored 34 out of 100 which put it in the category of highly corrupt countries.

A multi sector study on corruption in Ethiopia that World Bank commissioned also shows a growing trend of corruption even though, according to the report, Ethiopia is not yet among the worst corrupt countries in Africa or elsewhere. The report divides the sectors into three categories: basic services (public health, education, rural water and justice), old sectors (construction and land mining) and new sectors (telecommunication pharmaceutical). It shows that the basic service sector is least impacted on by corruption save for some instances of mismanagement and petty corruption at service delivery level. However, the construction sector, in the category of old sectors, faces

immense risk of corruption. The risk of corruption in this sector is not simply limited at procurement and construction level, but also extends to regulatory and policy making level. ‘Licensing and market entry’ in this sector are determined based on favoritism and ethnic affiliation. The problem is compounded by the fact that the government, as will be discussed below, is both a regulator and the primary client in this sector.

The other sector from among the old sectors with high risk of corruption is the land administration sector, especially the urban land administration. Under the 1995 Constitution, private land ownership is not allowed. One can thus become only a possessor of a plot of land that he/she takes on lease. The land allocation sector is however considered to be the second most corrupt sector, next to custom service, in the country. The corruption in the land administration sector, a sector which was in any case never corruption-free, is worsened by the poor legal framework of land administration that relies ‘on unpublished, easily changed directives’ and the absence of ‘a real system to record rights and restrictions. As a result, ‘land is allocated and expropriated based on political and other considerations’. Moreover, information about land lease and other related matters are ‘closely held and not transparent’. Hence, only those with the right connection succeed in leasing lands. The most serious corruption related problem, which is comparable with the worst cases in African and elsewhere, according to report, is detected in the new sectors which are apparently ‘set on a trajectory similar to highly corrupt countries’. These include telecommunication, pharmaceutical and the like. It is also reported that there is a widespread corruption within the defense and security establishments. Massive corruption and mismanagement of funds are reported to have taken place in the Metal and Engineering Corporation (METEC), a large conglomerate which forms a part of the defense industry complex. METEC is involved in mega infrastructure project taking place in the country. It was contracted to build several sugar factories and subcontracted to work on electro-mechanical part of the Grand Ethiopian Renaissance Dam (GERD). However, according to the TI report, ‘METEC’s financial and budgetary links with the military are [not] clear, and there is no evidence that annual reports have ever been made available to the public’. It is also reported that the energy sector in particular the various mega hydropower projects are affected by corruption. The country is making massive investment in the hydropower sector. The GERD on its own is estimated to cost about \$ 5 billion. The size and the complexity of such projects and the mammoth amount of money that they involve have created a ‘heightened risk of corruption’ which takes the form of bribery and overcharging for goods and

services. Even worse, this sector involves ‘a risk of policy capture, whereby vested interests influence decision making in the project’s lifecycle to benefit themselves to the detriment of other stakeholders.

2.3. The FDRE Constitution on corruption

The Constitution does not specifically address the issue of corruption. Terms such as corruption, bribes, misuse of powers and funds are not even mentioned in the Constitution. It nevertheless contains certain principles that can be considered as ‘anti-corruption’. Chapter 2 of the Constitution contains a list of ‘fundamental principles of the Constitution’. One of the five principles in this chapter requires transparency and accountability in the ‘conduct of affairs of government’. It also provides that ‘public official or an elected representative is accountable for any failure in official duties’. It goes without saying that transparency and accountability are antitheses of corruption since the latter thrives when government operates in a manner lacking transparency and without accountability.

The Constitution further establishes (or requires the establishment of) three institution with direct and indirect mandates of combating corruption. One of such institutions is the Federal Auditor General which is established with the mandate to ‘audit and inspect the accounts of ministries and other agencies of the federal government’ with a view to ensuring ‘expenditures are properly made ...and in accordance with the approved allocations’. The Auditor General, in addition to its regulatory responsibilities, has the power to audit ‘the accounts of the federal government offices and organizations’. It can audit the regions regarding their use of subsidies and any special grants extended to them by the federal government. It can also audit the accounts of private contractors who are awarded by the federal government a contractual work in the amount exceeding a million Birr. The Auditor General has the power to conduct ‘performance audit’ regarding the legality and efficiency of federal government offices and public enterprises that are owned by the federal government. In addition, the Constitution requires the establishment of ‘institution of the Ombudsman’ and a Human Rights Commission, even though without defining their mandates.⁴¹ The mandates of these institutions, as per the establishing proclamations, though not specifically anti-corruption, are indeed relevant for the anti-corruption efforts. The Ombudsman, for instance, has the responsibility to ‘rectify or prevent unjust decisions and orders of executive organs and

officials’ and to ensure that citizens who ‘suffered from maladministration, are not left without, redress’.⁴² Decision that are underpinned by corruption are by definition unjust. Corruption is also an aspect of maladministration and, hence, within the purview of the Ombudsman. The HRC is also authorized ‘to receive and investigate all complaints on human rights violations made against any person’. Corruption is ‘not a victimless crime’ and there is a clear link between corruption and human rights violations. As the former UN chief, Ban Ki-moon, said, ‘[c]orruption undermines democracy and the rule of law [and] leads to violations of human rights. National HRCs are also viewed central in the fight against corruption. Therefore, the Ethiopian HRC can be considered as an anticorruption institution considering its mandates to investigate all complaints of human right violations.

2.4 Benishangul Gumuz Regional State Anti-corruption Corruption Commission.

2.4.1. Rationale for the Establishment of the BGRSACC

Like FEACC the Benishangul Gumuz regional state ACC is also organized under the proclamation number 70/2000 E.C and dawn its work in July1/2000. In order to balance the current anti-corruption duty and responsibility the previous proclamation had improved under proclamation no 133/2008 and worked its work in the region as an independent watchdog institution. With the following objectives

- To create awareness in Ethiopian society that corruption will not be condoned or tolerated by promoting Ethics and anti-corruption education.
- To prevent corruption offenses and other improprieties.
- To create and promote integrity and public services.
- To prepare and follow up on the implementation of codes and ethics for public officials and Civil servants.

2.4.2. The BGRSACC’s mission:

Similar to the FEACC the BGRSACC also have the following missions;

- To ensure that the country’s resources go to desired development projects by expanding ethics and anti-corruption education.

-To examine the practices and working procedures of federal public offices and enterprises, thereby plugging loopholes that are believed to be conducive to corruption.

-To expose, investigate, and prosecute corruption offenses committed in federal public offices and public enterprises, or in regional offices related to subsidies granted by the federal government.

2.4.3 The Strategic Plan of BGRSACC

In general the strategic plans of the commission are; creating truthful public service and build institutional trust by the people, improve public and stake holders satisfaction, fight against corruption offences by delivering civic education and held investigation, encourage ethics branches, improve workers skill , properly using budget prioritization of major tasks, the establishment of an efficient service delivery system, the creation of a strong partnership with pertinent bodies and stakeholders, and the establishment of an integrated information system.

2.4.4. Functions of BGRSACC

The BGRSACC has the dual objective of combating corruption and promoting ethics and anti-corruption education aimed at civil servants and society at large. It has adapted from FEACC approach to fighting corruption, which includes the three functions of investigation, prosecution, and ethics education and prevention. The BGRSACC approach to combating corruption is consistent with the draft national anti-corruption strategy that was developed in consultation with stakeholders. The draft strategy clearly states that education, prevention, and enforcement are the main pillars of the national anti-corruption strategy and requires that all concerned parties harmonize and adapt the three core pillars around their ethics and anti-corruption strategies.

2.4.5 The Commission's Authority

The Commission has adopted the double-agency approach of an independent and centralized anti-corruption function with a threefold mandate of preventing, investigating and prosecuting corruption in the public sector. In addition, the BGRSACC has a mandated for regional level and to the federal.

It has the power to investigate corruption in the private sector as long as the issue in question concerns public officials and matters such as public-private collusion. The BGRSACC has full authority to investigate corruption in any government agency or entity except in the Parliament. Unless the Prime Minister specifically directs the BGRSACC to investigate the Parliament, it has immunity from such investigations.

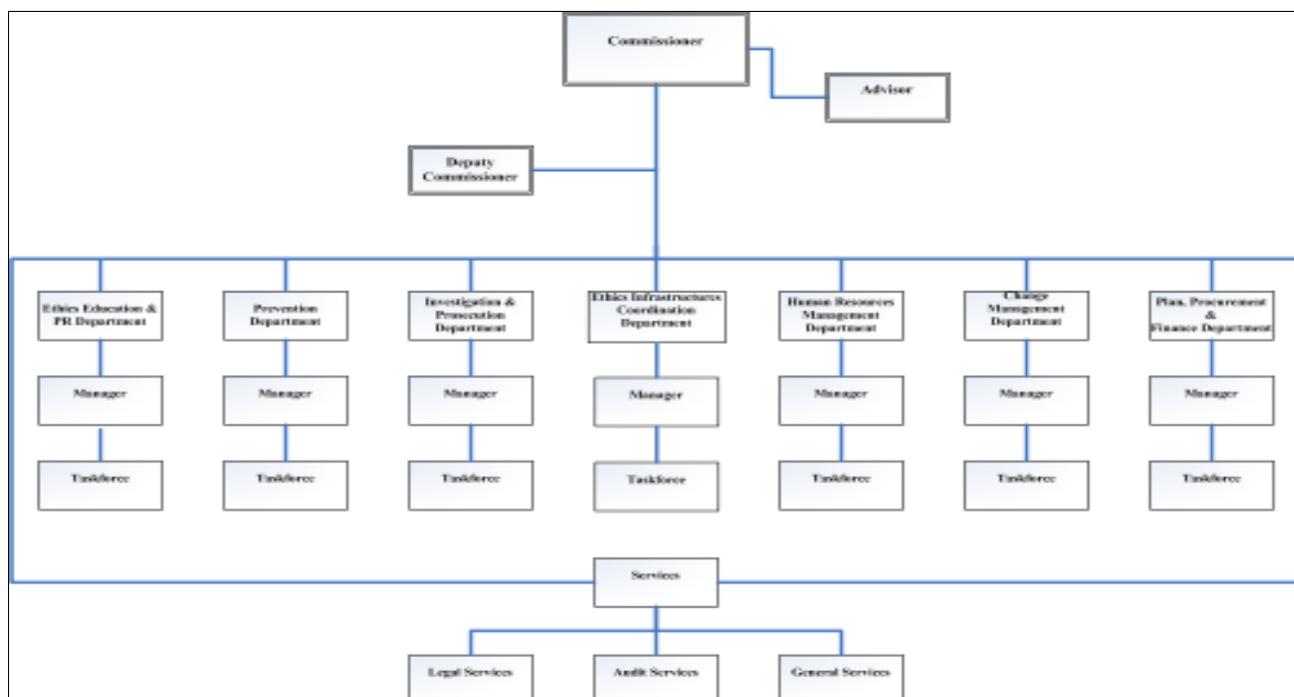
It also has the authority and duty to raise public awareness about the negative effects of corruption, to prevent corruption by studying the practices and working procedures of public services, and to promote ethics in public service offices and enterprises. In this regard, the Commission has the full authority to propose corrective measures and recommendations and follow up on their implementation. In addition, it also has the power to freeze, by court order, the assets of any person under investigation for corruption; and cause the forfeiture of any assets and wealth obtained by corruption or its equivalent to the state and dispose of the same by or without public auction. In cooperation with relevant agencies, the Commission has the authority to register or enforce the registration of the assets and financial interests of public officials and employees.

The first draft bill for the Disclosure and Registration of Assets was presented to the parliament in mid-January and was passed on March 30, 2010 with a majority vote. All government officials and employees are now required to register their assets, including financial and non-financial properties such as loans, land, and other properties.

The BGRSACC reports to Benishangul Gumuze regional state and is accountable to the Benishangul Gumuze regional state. The same arrangement is followed by the regional anti-corruption commissions as they report directly to regional commission presidents. The commissioner and the deputy commissioner are appointed by the Benishangul Gumuze regional state council nomination by the president and report to the president and the regional council. The House of Peoples Representatives also has the authority to remove the commissioner and deputy commissioner.

2.4.6. Organizational Structure BGRSACC

Like FEACC the BGRSACC organizational structure also, the commissioner is supported by a deputy commissioner. In the organizational structure, there are eight totals of departments and three services. As illustrated in the organizational chart below,



The investigation and Prosecution Department

The Prevention Department

The Ethics Education and Public Relation (PR) Department

The Ethics Infrastructure Coordination Department

The Planning, Procurement, and Finance Department

The Human Resources Management Department

The Change Management Department and the Services Department

A. The Investigation and Prosecution Department

TheBGRSACC Investigation and Prosecution Department is authorized to investigate and prosecute any alleged or suspected corruption offenses committed in public offices and enterprises. It has the power to freeze by court order assets and wealth that are allegedly obtained through corruption and cause (through court order) their forfeiture and confiscation.

B. The Prevention Department

Like the government of Ethiopia Assosa also has adapted a preventive approach to combating corruption. The rationale for this approach has to do with its cost effectiveness, sustainability, and participatory nature. The Prevention Department seeks to prevent corruption by studying the practices and work procedures of public offices and enterprises. It further attempts to examine work methods that may be lead to corrupt practices and follows up on the implementation of recommended suggestions. The Department conducts research and studies on corruption prevention and visibility for its findings are used to guide BGRSACC activities. The unit also consults with stakeholders on preventing and combating corruption. The media, schools and religious institutions are employed by the Department as useful channels to educate the public about corruption.

The Prevention Department's work on corruption prevention is twofold:

Long term prevention – The Department attempts to prevent long-term acts of corruption.

Immediate prevention – The Commission may receive tips that require a quick reaction from the department. For instance, such tips may be a big government bid that could involve corrupt practices. In these cases, the Commission steps in quickly in an attempt to prevent potentially corrupt acts.

The Prevention Department works closely with all BGRSACC departments. Once the Prevention Department detects a potentially corrupt practice, it collects evidence and conducts a study to determine the reasons for it. When there is enough evidence, it designs solutions and works closely with the Ethics Education and PR Department to implement solutions. Regarding long-term prevention, it works closely with the Investigation Department to identify where most crimes occur and also checks the effectiveness of its services by analyzing any corrupt practices that have occurred in an area where the unit has previously conducted prevention activities.

C. The Ethics and Education Department

The objective of this department is to create greater public awareness that corruption should not be tolerated by promoting ethics and anti-corruption education. Its main responsibility is to disseminate ethics education, undertake public relation activities, and promote the Commission's objectives and

activities through various outlets. This Department is comprised of public relations, media, ethics, and education teams. The department disseminates its message through the following channels:

Face-to-face training – Since its establishment, the BGRSACC has given face-to-face ethics and education training to the region drawn from various cross-sections of society.

Training of Trainers – Given its limited resources, the Department aims to train individuals who have the ability to train trainers. This type of arrangement requires the selection of appropriate trainees who will go on to train others. To date, the unit has developed 11 training modules.

Panel discussions – This activity is carried out through workshops, conferences, and the media disseminating education on ethics and anti-corruption.

Disseminating and marketing ideas – This occurs through publications, posters, flyers, brochures, stickers, billboards, newsletters (internal and external), media and magazines.

In-house research – This activity was established in 2009 with the BPR implementation (see the organizational structure section) and involves the following activities:

D. The Ethics Infrastructure Coordination Department

The main task of this department is to coordinate the activities of major stakeholders in the fight against corruption. The department is in charge of coordinating the following stakeholders and activities. Public offices (police departments, prosecutorial bodies, courts, ombudsman and human rights agencies, auditor & parliaments of the region.) that are in charge of investigating and prosecuting crimes at the federal and regional levels. This department coordinates the Commission's work with all anti-corruption activities performed within the government, and works closely with anti-corruption representatives posted in each public sector office.

The department aims to collaborate with the above-mentioned organizations by assisting them in institutionalizing their efforts in combating corruption, sharing experiences, functioning as a liaison between the Commission and organizations, and providing them with training and advisory and technical support.

E. The Planning, Procurement, and Finance Department

This department is responsible for planning and managing the Commission's fiscal and financial activities. The budget preparation process starts when each department prepares its own budget with pre-determined ceilings and allocates the overall budgets of BGRSACC for five and or one year.

F. The Change Management Department

This department is responsible for leading the Commission's activities related to work directives and principles formulated in the creation of the BPR. The Change Management Department designs proposals to improve the working procedures in the Commission's departments, services, and other divisions. It is also responsible for ensuring that the Commission's activities are in line with the ongoing national civil service reform program.

G. The Services Department

The Services Department provides legal, internal audit, and general services functions to the entire organization. Regarding its internal audit function, the department carries out a review of the Commission's financial activities. It reviews and audits financial documents and the performance of each department and service. In addition, it examines the validity of financial documents, makes recommendations and follows up on the implementation of its recommendations.

CHAPTER THREE

3. RESEARCH DESIGN AND METHODOLOGY

3.1 RESEARCH DESIGN

As stated from the outset, the purpose of this study is to examine the roles of anti-corruption commission to combat corruption in BGRS on Assosa town. To this end, the research design will be structure to conduct the main research study with utmost precautionary manner. The difficult problem that follows the task of defining the research problem is the preparation of the design of the research project, popularly known as the “research design”. Decisions regarding what, where, when, how much, by what means concerning an inquiry or a research study constitute a research design. “A research design is the arrangement of conditions for collection and analysis of data in a manner that aims to combine relevance to the research purpose with economy and procedure.” In fact, the research design is the conceptual structure within which research is conducted and constitutes the blueprint for the collection, measurement and analysis of data. As such the design includes an outline of what the researcher will do from writing the hypothesis and its operational implications to the final analysis of data. (C.R. Kothari, 2004).

The selected design for this study was descriptive survey study method with qualitative and quantitative data analysis approaches. The main reason for selecting the qualitative design is helpful for better understanding the perceptions, practices and belief of individuals, groups and officials who are directly (indirectly) involved in combating corruption. The researcher chooses the descriptive design because the nature of the design is helpful in explaining the present situation in detail and it emphasizes on describing than judging. The researcher would also used the qualitative and quantitative data analysis to make the study as much as possible to be exact since the qualitative methods deals with words and detail explanation from the respondent. This helps the researcher in getting more valuable information. The quantitative method research would also address the nature of compliance by involving numerical data.

3.2 RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

Research methodology is the central body of a research which is systematically solves the research problems of the research. It can also understand as a science of studying how research is conducted systematically and scientifically.

3.3 Description of the Study Area

Although some studies reveal empirical results on the historical development, causes, manifestations, types and consequences of corruption, this study was conducted regarding to the role of B/G/R/S ACC in combating corruption in Assosa which is the capital city of Bnishangul Gumuz Regional State. The town Assosa is located in north western parts of Ethiopia and it is found 661km away from Addis Abeba and around 400 km away from Bahirdar. In Assosa there are five native indigenous races (ethnic group) which are called are Berta, Shinasha, Gumuz, Mao and Komo. But in Assosa Town each nation nationality and peoples of Ethiopia are harmoniously lived together in a peaceful manner. As the 2009 Assosaa town administration survey senses indicates the total population is estimated above 65,000 among that 44% Of women and 56% are men. So the institution I.e. B/G/R/S ACC that I selected to conduct my study is found there in Assosa.

3.4 Data type and Source

Here the researcher would use both primary and secondary sources/types of data. The primary data would have collected from the B/G/R/S Anti-corruption commission workers or officers from each department, from different other civil servants and from the ordinary citizen.

3.4.1 Primary Data Sources

Primary data would have collected through questionnaires and key format interviews. The research questionnaires are the research tool which determines the result of the study. Different types of structured questionnaires (both open and close ended) will be prepared and use to collect data from respondents of the selected population in the already selected institution (Anti-corruption institution in Assosa) and from respondents of the selected organization officers.

Conducting structured and unstructured interview is also an essential since it provides an opportunity to investigate topics in depth, it can yield new insights regarding the issues, and it helps the researcher to make clear or illustrate the questions. Thus the researcher will use both questionnaire and interview.

3.4.2 Secondary Data Sources

The Secondary data would collected from published and unpublished materials, which are available in the form of books, journal articles, proclamations, regulations and guidelines, performance reports of the commission.

3.5 Sampling design

The sampling design depends on the type of the research, objectives, purposes of the study and findings the researcher likes to draw from the study. Since take the whole population is unscientific and unmanageable to study; my sampling design is designed to gained tangible data from the following purposively selected targeted populations 25 respondents from 94 anti-corruption commission employees, 4 among 6school directors, 2 among 4 school supervisors, 3 among 4 kebele administrators and 6 among 10 selected well-known merchants. Sums totally 40 among 118 are purposively beast sweated for my investigation.

3.5.1 Sampling Size

The targeted populations of the researcher were 3 among 4 Assosa town kebele officers, 4 among 6school directors, 25 respondents from 94 of the Anticorruption commission workers (officers), 2 among 4 school supervisors and 6 among 10 selected merchants. The researcher was used purposive sampling through open ended and close ended questions. The reason behind selecting purposive sampling would selected from target population there have more information and awareness about Anti-corruption commission. Therefore the total sampling size were selected from Assosa town kebelie workers, school directors, school supervisors, merchants and office holders of ACC in BGRS Assosa

3.6 Data Collection Instrument

Collecting handy data is needed to conduct a research, so the researcher has been used both qualitative data collection instruments (document review & observation) and quantitative data collection instruments (interview & questioner) in both English and Amharic languages (since Amharic is working language of Ethiopia) to make the data easily understandable for the respondents.

3.7 Ethical consideration

To start and undertake the research, the necessary approval of the study topic is obtained from the Bahirdar University faculty of social science department of political science and international studies program Civic and Ethical studies. During the whole process from respective institutions, the researcher planed in advance to behave the discussions with at most ethical manner. Further brief description about the title and objective (academic consumption) of the study were made clear to respondents for all concerned institutions were informed in polite manner that the information they

give will not be disclosed to anyone else in order to build their confidence and provide the available raw data. Moreover, participants were told their valuable and genuine responses are vital.

Chapter Four

4 Methods of data Analysis and Interpretation

This chapter deals with the analysis and interpretation of the collected dates, data were collected using questioner and interviews from 25 workers of Benishangul Gumuz region ACC , from 4

school directors and 2supervisors , from 6 Assosa city administration Kebele office workers and also 3 individual merchants in the town . Collectively 35 individuals are participated from the data as analyzed, interpreted and presented below.

4.1. Back ground of the respondents

Table 1 respondent’s profile

Gender	frequency	Percentage	Age	Frequency	Percentage	Marital status	frequency	Percentage
Male	13	68.4	20 -- 30	8	42.3	Married	17	98
Female	6	31.5	31--40	6	31.5	unmarried	2	2
Total	19		41--50	2	10.5	Divorced		
			> 50	3	15.7	Widowed		

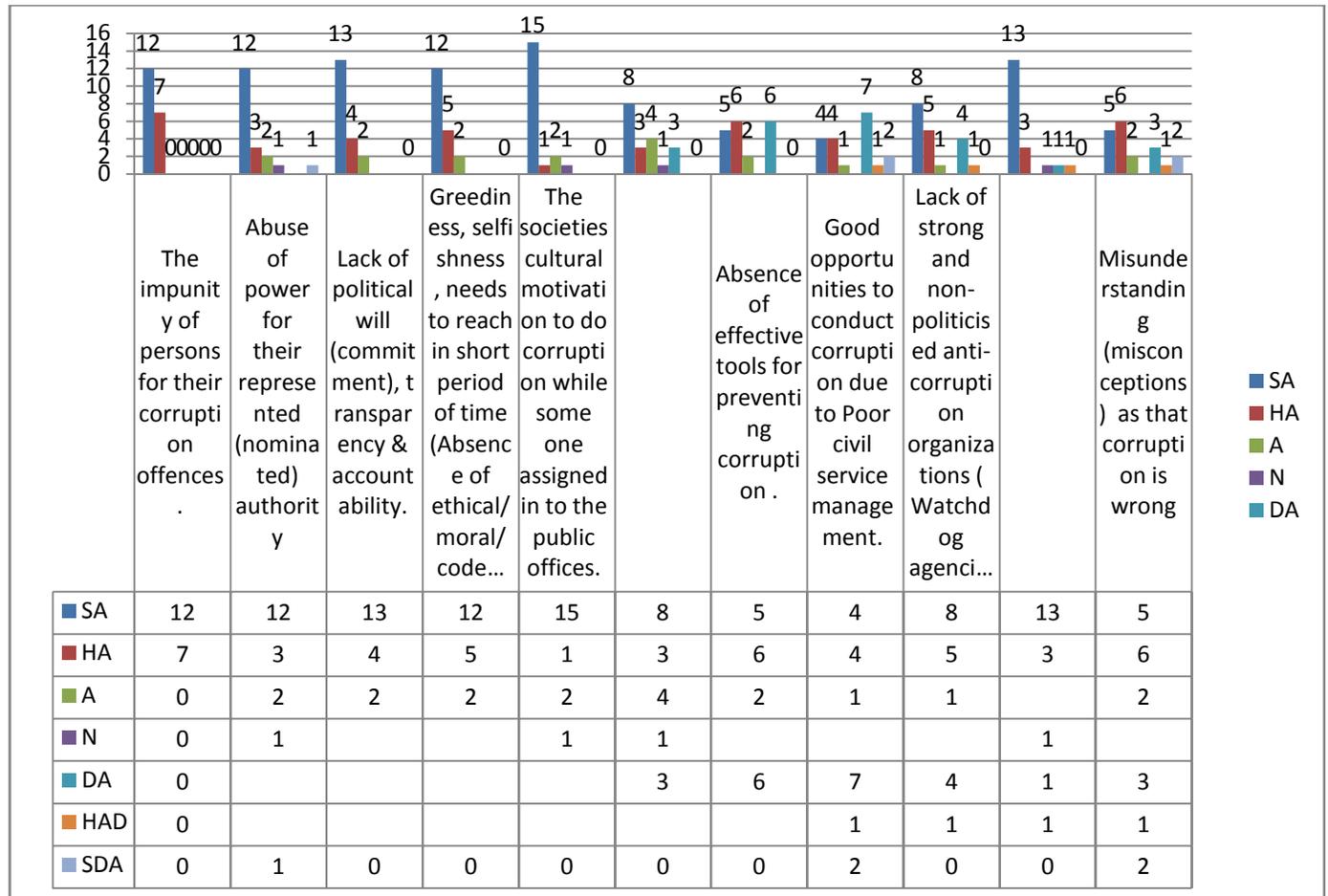
Table 2 continued from respondent’s profile

Education/Qualification	Frequency	Percentage	Work Experience	Frequency	Percentage	Monthly salary	Frequency	Percentage
High school certificate			< 5 Year	2	11	2000-5000 ETB	8	42
Diploma	6	32	6 - 10 years	12	63	6000 - 8000ETB	2	11
BA degree	10	53	11- 15 years	2	11	9000 -11000 ETB	5	26
MA degree	3	15	16-20 years & above	3	15	11000 &above	4	21

As shown from the above table 1 and 1.1 the respondents profile are expressed accordingly one after the other as follow 68.4% are male and 6% are female, 42% of respondents are find in between the youth age level, 31% are find in between the pop age level and by total sum around 26% of respondents are find in between and above old age level. Their marital statuses are 98% of the respondents are married and the 2% are unmarried. When I come to the qualifications of the

respondent 32% are diploma, 53% are BA degree and 15% of them are M.A degree. Their work experiences 11% are below 5 years experience and in total sum 89% of the respondents are well experienced who serves between 6 -20 year careers. And lastly the monthly salaries (wedge) of them are 42% are paid 2000 – 5000 ETB & 68% of them are paid 6000- 11000ETB

Graph1 The causes of corruption in Assosa town



As looking from the above graph Graph1 which expresses the causes of corruption in Assosa town are analyzed as follow.As looked from the graph; 1st the impunity of persons for their corruption offences 19 (100%) of respondents are strongly agreed and on this issue I also asked 4 school directors, 2 school supervisors, 4 Kebelie administrators and 6 merchants in the town are also highly agreed. According to respondents’ feedback and as I make deep interview for workers the impunity of persons for their corruption offences is counted as one major case in Assosa town. 2nd the Abuse of power for their represented (nominated) authority;17(90%) of respondents are highly agreed and 2(10 %) are disagreed, on this issue I also asked 4 school directors , 2 school supervisors ,3 of

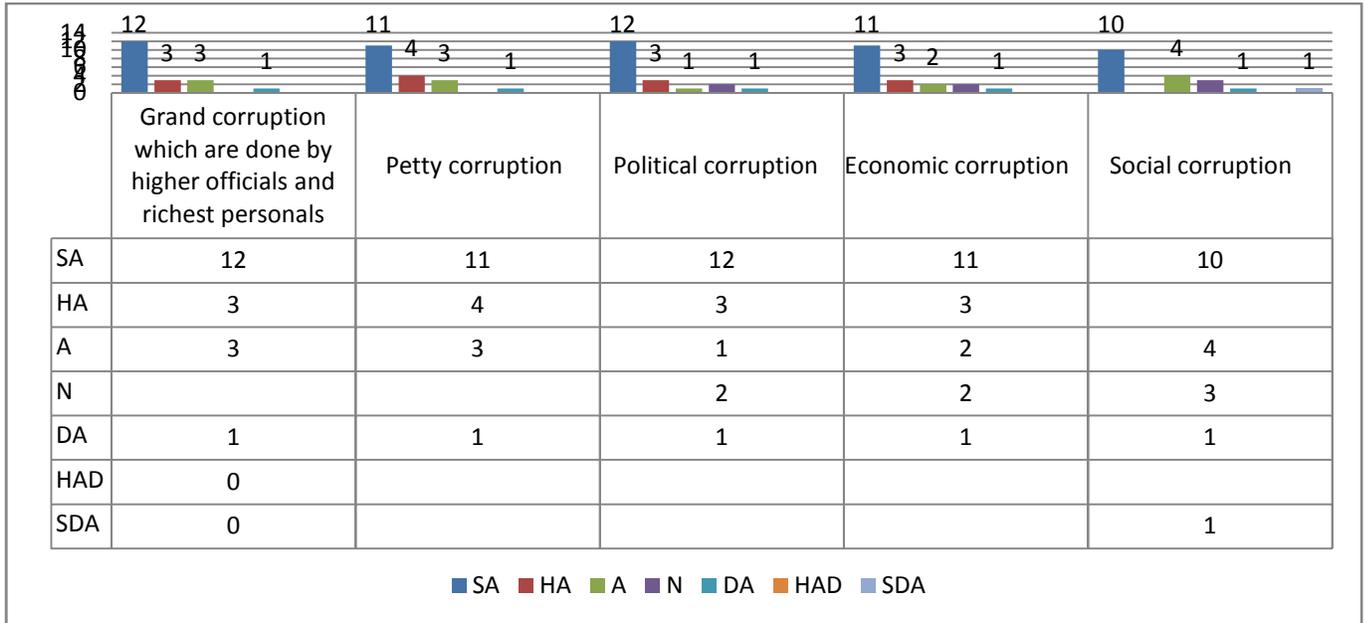
4 Kebele administrators and 6 merchants in the town are also highly agreed. Therefore as I also checked in interview it is counted as another major cause in Assosa.^{3rd}, Lack of political will (commitment), transparency & accountability; for this questioner also 19 (100%) of the participated respondents are highly agreed and at the same sense on this issue I also asked 4 school directors, 2 school supervisors, 4 Kebele administrators and 6 merchants in the town are also highly agreed, so since still there is similar feedback it is the basic cause. ^{4th} Greediness, selfishness, needs to reach in short period of time (Absence of ethical/moral/ code of conduct; for this questioner also 19(100%) of the participated respondents are highly agreed and at the same sense on this issue I also asked 4 school directors, 2 school supervisors, 4 Kebele administrators and 6 merchants in the town are also highly agreed. As I made interview the interviewee said that In Assosa town peoples are made corruption in one or other way to become rich easily and shortly, so it is another root cause.^{5th} The societies cultural motivation to do corruption while some one assigned in to the public office; for this questioner 18(95%) of respondents are strongly agreed and among them 1(one) respondent is preferred to choose neutral, on this issue as I also asked 2 of 4 school directors, 2 of 2 school supervisors, 3 of 4 Kebele administrators and 4 of 6 merchants in the town are also highly agreed. Even though it is one cause of corruption accordingly the majorities' respondents feedback, my interviewee said that currently most of our society are trying to fight corruption rather than encouraging it. But there is gape to do more for that reason the habit of doing corruption is also still the cause in Assosa town. ^{6th} The low wage, salaries & incentives paid per a month at the work, living cost inflation and unable to resist it. For this questioner 15(79%) of respondents are highly agreed and among them 1(5%) respondent is neutral and 3(16%) of them are disagreed. on this question as I also asked 3 of 4 school directors, 2 of 2 school supervisors, 3 of 4 Kebele administrators and 3 of 6 merchants in the town are agreed. According to the most respondents agreement it is the other cause for corruption in Assosa. But as my interviewee said and me as a researcher believed low salary (wage) & living cost inflation is not the cause, rather the cause of that corrupt person is immoral (ignores moral, religious values and work ethics). ^{7th} Absence of effective tools for preventing corruption; for this question 13(74 %) of respondents are agreed and 6 (36%) of them are neutral. Regarding to this question as I also asked 4 of 4 school directors, 2 of 2 school supervisors, 3 of 4 Kebele administrators and 6 of 6 merchants in the town are also highly agreed. As respondents already agreed and my interviewees approved it also another cause corruption in Assosa. ^{8th} Good opportunities to conduct corruption due to Poor civil service

management; for this question 9(47%) Agreed and 10(53%) are disagreed. Regarding to this question as I also asked 4 of 4 school directors, 2 of 2 school supervisors, 3 of 4 Kebele administrators and 6 of 6 merchants in the town are also highly agreed. Even though some respondents are neutral & disagreed, me and averagely most respondents are accepted it as one case of corruption there. 9th Lack of strong and non-politicized anti-corruption organizations (Watchdog agencies); for this questioner 14 (74%) of the respondents are agreed 4(21%) and 1(5%) disagreed. So standing from that it is another case in Assosa town. 10th Presence of unclear laws and regulations which are convenient for doing corruption offences; for this questioner also 17 (85%) of the respondents are highly agreed; therefore it is one basic cause. 11th Misunderstanding (misconceptions) as that corruption is wrong; Here also among 19 respondents 13 are averagely highly agreed the rest of others are neutral and disagreed, standing from respondents feedback it is possible to say the cause. But regarding to this question as I asked 4 of 4 school directors, 2 of 2 school supervisors, 4 of 4 Kebele administrators and 6 of 6 merchants in the town are also highly disagreed and as I check it from my interviewee they said the society knows as it is crime and they believed as it is religiously also condemned. So recently it may not taken as a major cause for doing corruption.

In addition to the above causes from my interviewee I have got the following causes that are seriously and repeatedly occurred in Assosa town; they said in Assosa prison the corrupts and release them without returned the thieved money (possession) this means the corruption offenses simply bring and prisoner then later when they finished their time of prison they simply release, lack of serious accountability up to rejected from their work & prison, the corrupted persons work according to their willingness rather than working by following the moral (conscience) and organizational law, formerly doing corruption was seen as culture but recently it is seen as manifestation of modernity and globalization if you aren't doing corruption you are counted as a backward person, absence of work guarantee the person haven't guaranteed to serve on that position for this reason they prefer doing corruption and cancelled the data and they leave their position or go to other position. Unable to seasonally update rules and regulations of corruption offences or even if there is an updated regulation (proclamations) there is delayed to inter into practice. And also the presence of systemically arranged and calculated corruption, in Assosa most corruptions are systemic or structured which is rooted from security guard, cleaner up to the tope responsible civil servant or officer and systemically hide or reject corrupted documents. Also calculated corruption

when someone doing corruption he/she calculates or considers for how long I will prison , am I profitable after I release from prison or have I got that possession doing for that year/period of time/ after calculated such things they directly involved on doing corruption.

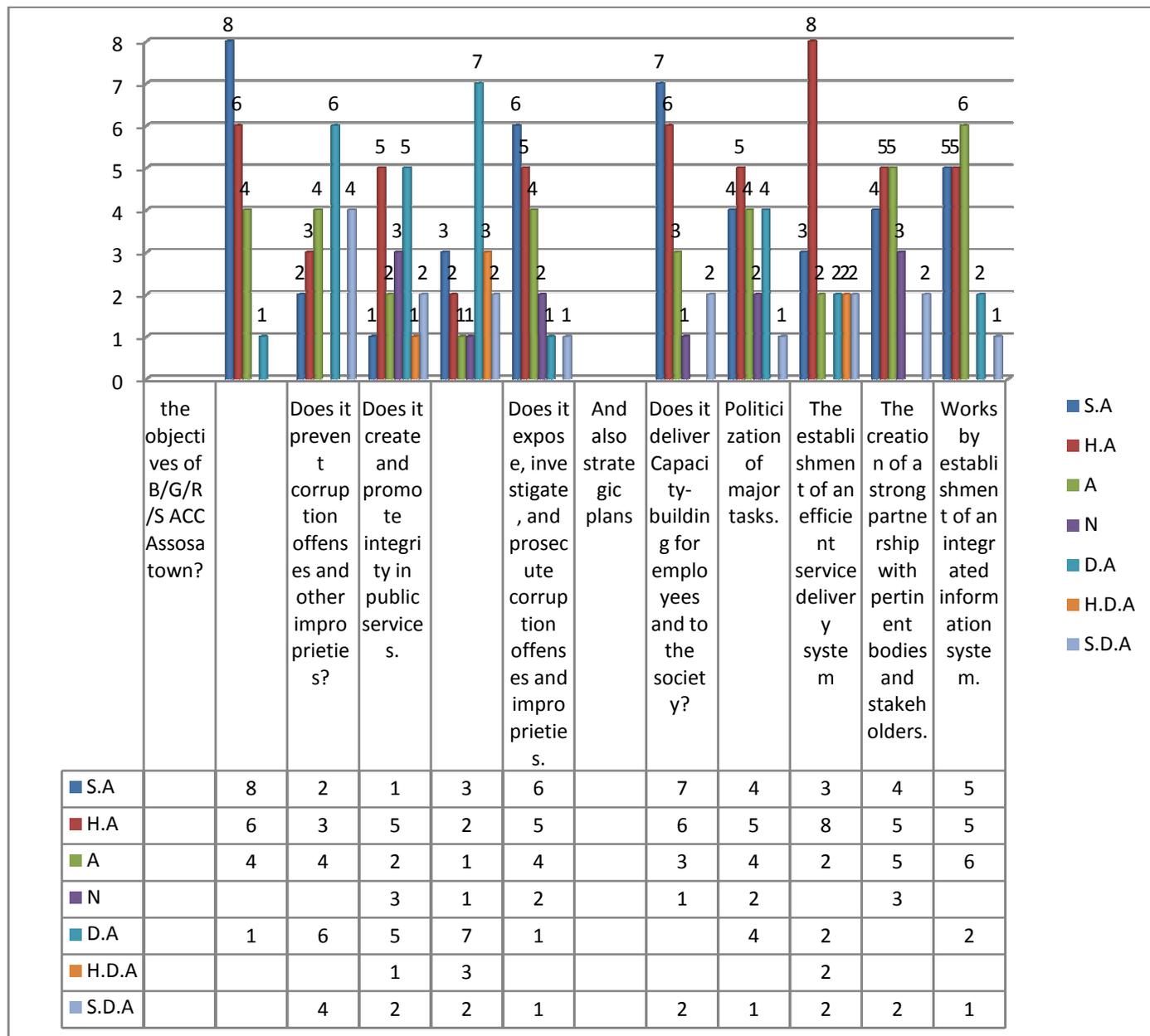
Graph2 types of corruption which are repeatedly occurred in Assosa Town.



As looked from the aboveGraph 2, which expresses types of corruption that are repeatedly occurred in Assosa Town are analyzed as follow; 1stgrand corruption which are done by higher officials and richest personals; For this question almost all of the respondents are highly agreed. Therefore according to the town’s growth rate or wealth the appointed officials and wealth personals are doing such corruption. 2ndPetty corruption; for this types of corruption also 99% of the participated respondents are highly agreed and approved as highly practiced in the town , it indicates as there are administrative (common) corruption in the town. 3rd political corruption; for this types of corruption also 85% of the participated respondents are highly agreed and approved as highly practiced in the town , this indicates the politically nominated persons have been doing such political corruption in Assosa town. 4th Economic corruption; here also 85% of the participated respondents are highly agreed and approved as highly practiced this corruption by doing partiality while they giving commercial license, work creation in small enterprises and the like the town, 5th Social corruption; here also 74% respondents are agreed and different social corruptions like referring persons by their

back ground, race, language, religion and the like, so thus are the types of corruption occurred in Assosa town.

Graph3 the practical practices of B/G/R/S/ACC on the objectives & strategic plans in Assosa town?



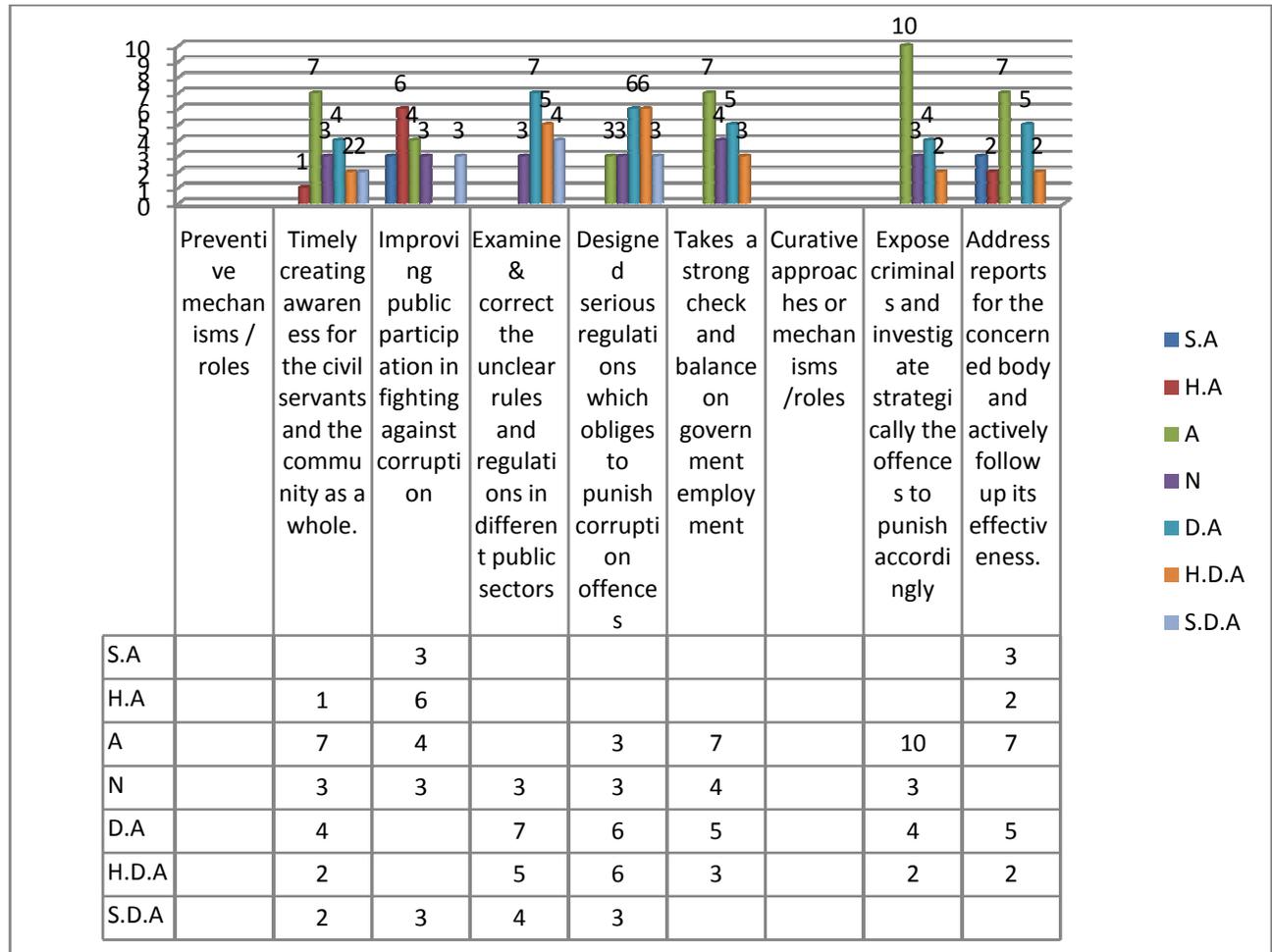
As the above data's of Graph 3 represented the practical practices of B/G/R/S/ACC on the objectives & strategic plans in Assosa town are analyzed as follow; 1st Does it create awareness in Assosa town society that corruption will not be condoned or operated by promoting ethics and anti-corruption education; for this question as shown from the graph 18 (95%) of the respondents are

highly agreed, it indicates how much the commission is strongly perform its objective timely and properly for the societies of Assosa town. But since they are the Anti corruption commission workers I don't believed their feedback because they will cover their fault. To check up it regarding to this question as I also asked 3 of 4 school directors, 2 of 2 school supervisors, 3 of 4 Kebele administrators and 4 of 6 merchants in the town respondents are disagreed, this indicates the commission has gaps to do this objective. 2nd Does it prevent corruption offenses and other improprieties; for this question 9 (45%) of the respondents are agreed and 10 (55%) of the respondents are highly disagreed, here my interviewee school directors, supervisors and kebele officers are also highly disagreed as it has there is gaps on corruption prevention. 3rd Does it create and promote integrity in public services; for this question 8 (40.5%) of the respondents are highly agreed, 3 (15%) of the respondents are make them neutral & 8 (40.5%) of the respondents are highly disagreed, as their response indicates some of them are believed as created and promoted integrity in the public services proportionally some others are not and a few of them aren't sure to decide. But the sum result shows as there are deficiency on doing that objective. As my interviewee Saied the commission can't speak confidentially on whether the peoples are believed them (integrated with their work) or not. 4th Does it (the commission) prepares and follows the implementation of codes of ethics for public officials and civil servants ;as represented from the graph for this question 6 (32%) of the respondents are agreed, 1 (5%) of the respondents are make them neutral and 12 (63%) of the respondents are highly disagreed , standing from the majorities disagreement the commission has gaps on the creation of codes of ethics and civic values for both public officials and civil servants of Assosa town. 5th Does it exposes, investigate, and prosecute corruption offenses and improprieties; as represented from the graph for this question 15 (79%) of the respondents are agreed, 2 (10.5%) of the respondents are neutral and 2 (10.5%) of the respondents are disagreed, standing from their respond the commission exposes, investigate, and prosecute corruption offenses and improprieties on the town. But as I got from the interview respondents the problem is the realizations of whether the corrupted guys are really got accurate punishment or not. **Regarding to their strategic plans;** 1st Does the commission deliver Capacity-building for employees and to the society; as represented from the graph for this question 16 (84%) of the respondents are highly agreed, 2 (10.5%) of the respondents are make them neutral and 2 (10.5%) of the respondents are highly disagreed, standing from the majorities agreement the commission highly engaged on capacity buildings of the workers find there. Here even though the

worker respondents answer as such, but as I have got data from my interviewee and the 2010 reports of the commission shows it has a weakness on delivering capacity buildings for workers in case there is lack of skilled workers there. 2nd Politicization of major tasks; as represented from the graph for this question 13(68%) of the respondents are highly agreed, 2(10.5%) of the respondents are make them neutral and 5(26%) of there pendants are disagreed and regarding to this question as I also asked 4of 4 school directors, 2of 2 school supervisors, 3 of 4 Kebele administrators and 6 of 6 merchant respondents are also highly agreed. Standing from the majorities' response the tasks of the commission are politicized, it makes the commission paralyzed to perform the standing initial objectives. 3rd The establishment of an efficient service delivery system; as represented from the graph for this question 13(68%) of the respondents are highly agreed and 6 (32%) of the respondents are highly disagree. Regarding to this question as I also asked 4of 4 school directors, 2of 2 school supervisors, 2 of 4 Kebele administrators and 4 of 6 merchant respondents are also disagreed. Even though the some respondents of B/G/R/SACC workers are believed the commission works by establishing efficient service delivery system some other workers and the other civil servants aren't accept rather they criticized as it haven't efficient service delivery system for with civil servants to alleviate corruption. 4th The creation of a strong partnership with pertinent bodies and stakeholders; as represented from the graph for this question 14(73.5%) of the respondents are agreed, 3 (16%) of the respondents are neutral and 2 (10.5%) of the respondents are highly disagreed, so as majorities response the commission worked with different stake holders & pertinent bodies for the sake of combating corruption. But regarding to this question as I also asked 4of 4 school directors, 2of 2 school supervisors, 3 of 4 Kebelie administrators and 6 of 6 merchant respondents are disagreed and they said the institution isn't continuously strengthen our partnership they are seasonal in their nature in Assosa. 5th Is the commission works by establishment of an integrated information system? As represented from the graph for this question 16(84%) of the respondents are highly agreed, 2 (10.5%) of the respondents are make them neutral and 1 (5%) of the respondents are highly disagreed and regarding to this question as I also asked 4of 4 school directors, 2of 2 school supervisors, 4 of 4 Kebele administrators and 2 of 6 merchant respondents are also highly agreed, here also as almost all of the respondents feedback and as I have got some in formations from my interview the commission works by establishing Ethical officers starting from region up to locality (Kebele) and schools saying civic and ethical club, but as they said the question

is failed to follow the effectiveness and practically implementations (it is simply stricture building) of that system they aren't timely scheduled to reach with us.

Graph4 Evaluating the practical implication preventive and curative approach (mechanisms or roles) of B/G/R/S/ACC



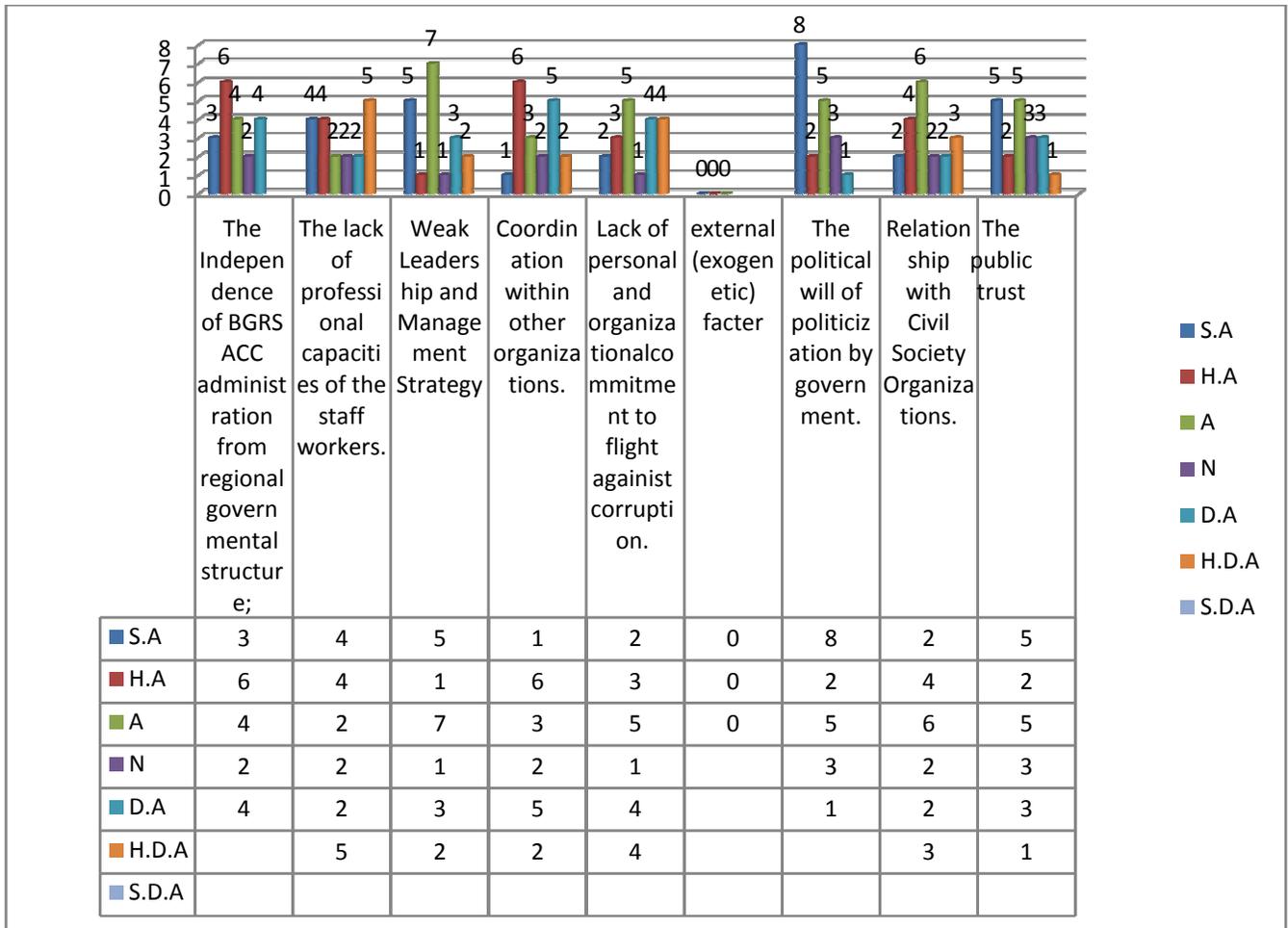
As the above data's of graph 4 represents Evaluating the practical implication preventive and curative approach (mechanisms or roles) of B/G/R/S/ACC in Assosa town are analyzed as follow; 1st Timely creating awareness for the civil servants and the community as a whole; As shown from the graph for this question 8 (42%) of the respondents are agreed 3 (16%) of the respondents are neutral 8 (42%) of the respondents are highly disagreed. So standing from their feedback both the agreed and disagreed respondents are equal, but including the neutral respondents (58%) are disagreed. As it indicates and I have got data's from the interview the commission doesn't create arranged & programmed awareness for students, for kebele societies, for civil servants and for youths of Assosa town societies. 2nd Improving public participation in fighting against corruption;

for this question 10 (52.5%) of the respondents are highly agreed 3 (16%) of the respondents are neutral 3 (16%) of the respondents are disagreed. To the reverse as I also asked 4 of 4 school directors, 2 of 2 school supervisors, 3 of 4 Kebele administrators and 6 of 6 merchant respondents are disagreed and they said the institution is not strategically engaged public participation rather they come and participate us when they get convenient time for them. So standing from public opinion it has the gap. 3rd Examine & give correction for unclear rules and regulations in different public sectors; for this question 3 (16%) of the respondents are neutral 16 (84%) of the respondents are disagreed. Here as almost all of the respondents are disagreed the commission does not examine and give corrections for unclear rules and regulation of public sectors which are elicited and best sweated for doing corruption. 4th Designed serious regulations which obliges to punish corruption offences; for this question 3 (16%) of the respondents are agreed 3 (16%) of the respondents are neutral 15 (79%) of the respondents are highly disagreed. As majority of workers of the commission answers from this question as one targeted role the commission isn't designed serious regulations which oblige to punish corruption offences. 5th Takes a strong check and balance on government employment; for this question 7 (37%) of the respondents are agreed 4 (21%) of the respondents are neutral 8 (42%) of the respondents are disagreed. Here majority of respondents are disagreed it indicates as there is no check and balance on government employments, but some of them are also said there is check and balance so there is controversial feedbacks between the commission workers since it is conducted from the commissions workers. To conclude that by the sum total of neutral and disagreed respondents the commission doesn't make check and balance. **And also on curative approaches or mechanisms /roles;** 1st Expose criminals and investigate strategically the offences to punish accordingly; for this question 10 (53%) of the respondents are agreed 3 (16%) of the respondents are neutral 6 (31%) of the respondents are disagreed. As majority of the commission workers respondent responds and as I have got from the interview the commission exposes criminals and investigates corruption offences. But it is not strong (powerful) to check whether the corruption criminals have got the right punishment or not, because as they told me the commissions effort are lastly paralyzed by the judiciary bodies of the regional government (by judgments process of the court). They aren't taken the accurate corrective measures according to the severity and degrees of the corruption offence. 2nd Address reports for the concerned body and actively follow up its effectiveness; for this question 12 (63%) of the respondents are agreed 7 (37%) of the respondents are disagreed. Here also as the majorities are agreed the commission addresses reports to the

concerned bodies, but as some of the respondents disagreed and as I have got data from the interviewee it has the gaps actively follow-up the reports effectiveness and practical translation to the ground. So if the commission isn't examines its work practically only reporting is seems like the "toothless lion".

As I have got the interviewee to alleviate corruption they worked together, represent ethics officers in each civil servant and other institutions, deliver lessons using two types of approaches which is called **Ant-rust approach**; this approach is follow the principle of preventing children's (students) and youths from rusting by corruption through delivering repeated lesson and creating awareness. **Lubricant approach**; it is an approach designed to lubricate the rusted and for those who are consider already matured and know about corruption offence and use as a weak up sound bell from carelessly looking the severity of corruption and also accused corruption offences.

Graph5 The internal /endogenous& external /exogenous challenges of B/G/R/S/ACC



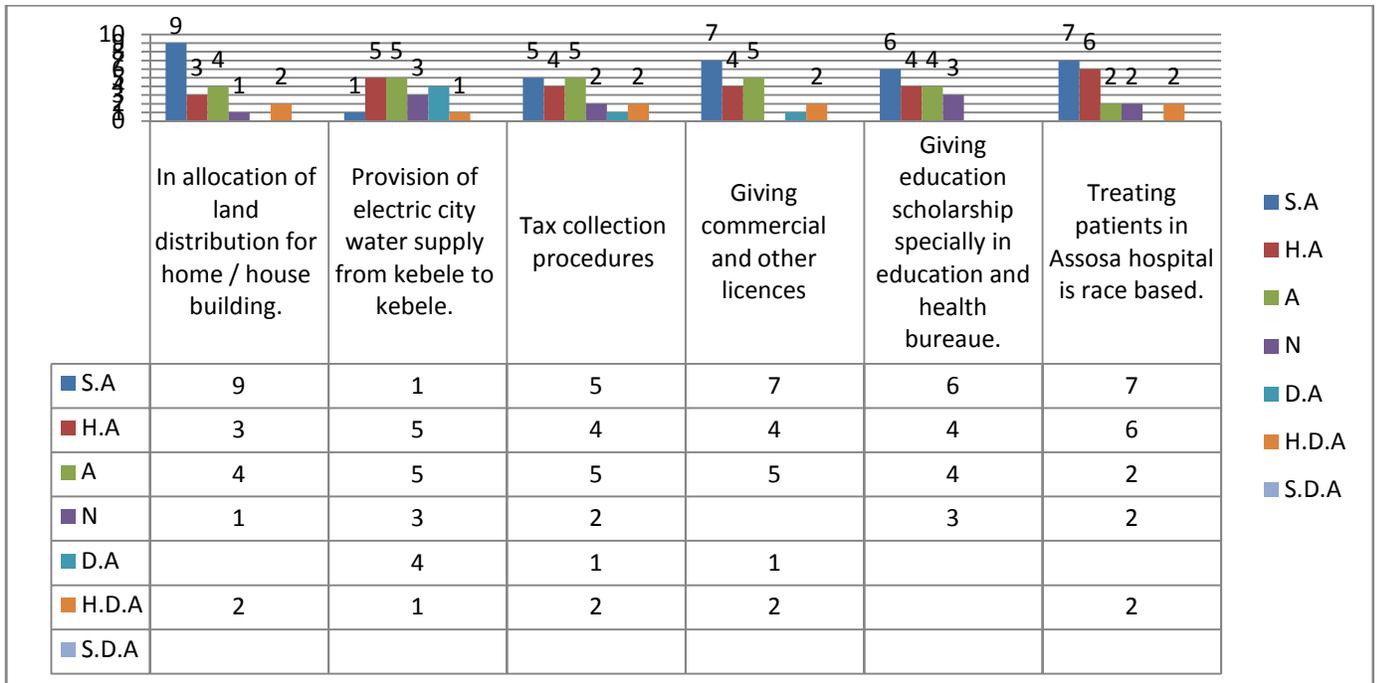
As the above data's of graph 5 represents the internal /endogenous& external /exogenous challenges of B/G/R/S/ACC in Assosa town are analyzed as follow one after the other; A,**internal /endogenous factors or challenges;** 1st The Independence of BGRSACC administration from regional governmental structure; for this question 13(68%) of the respondents are highly agreed 2(11%) of the respondents are neutral 4(21%) of the respondents are highly disagreed.As the majorités of the respondents are highly agreed the Assosa ACC isn't free from the regional influence. And as I have interview the workers of the commission they told me as they are challenged by the regional government direct or indirect interference. 2nd The lack of professional capacities of the staff workers; for this question 10(53%) of the respondents are agreed 2(10%) of the respondents are neutral 7(37%) of the respondents are disagreed. As have looked responses of the respondents as there are highly committed and efficient workers there are also professionally weak and carless (disregarded). 3rd weakLeadership and Management Strategy; for this question 13(68%) of the respondents are agreed 1(5%) of the respondents are neutral 5(26%) of the

respondents are highly disagreed. Here also as the majorities of the respondents are agreed and the commission 2010 report shows the commission has internally weak leadership and sharp management strategies. 4th Coordination within other organizations; for this question 10(53%) of the respondents are agreed 2(10%) of the respondents are neutral 7 (37%) of the respondents are highly disagreed. here the half of respondents are agreed as there is coordination with others ,some of them are said there is no coordination with other organizations and a lot of them are preferred to make them neutral. But the fact is there is no strong coordination with other governmental and sister organizations even they work with others that is seasonal not long-lasting (for the sake of reports) that is why the commission is weak to combat corruption offences.5th Lack of personal and organizational commitment to fight corruption; for this question 9(47%) of the respondents are agreed 1(5%) of the respondents are neutral 8(42%) of the respondents are highly disagreed. Here the half of the respondents are said as there is personal and organizational commitment to combat corruption and the half others are said the organization is weak and the workers themselves are not committed to achieve the commissions goal and objective, in addition to this the 2010 general reports of the commission also approved it. **External (exogenous) factors /challenges;** 1st the political will of politicization by government; for this question 15(79%) of the respondents are agreed 3(16%) of the respondents are neutral 1(5%) of the respondents are highly disagreed. Just as averagely almost all of the respondents agreed the commission is highly politicize by the politician (regional government). And as the commission security guard and the information desk secretly told me the commission workers by themselves are the members of political parties as they said the Berta nationals are secretly grouped together and pay for Benishangul Peoples Democratic Party, Oromo nationals secretly make them the member of Oromo Democratic Party, the Tigrian nationals for TPLF and the like so the workers are directly or indirectly politicized the government also trying to control it. 2nd Relationship with Civil Society Organizations; for this question 4(16%) of the respondents are agreed 2(16%) of the respondents are neutral 5(79%) of the respondents are highly disagreed. Here as the major respondents agreed the commission has relation with civil service institutions even has office which is called ethical office but the disagreed respondents said they are not far from symbolic connection even the office holders are not fight corruption from the appointed civil service organization. 3rd The public trust; for this question 2(10.5%) of the respondents are agreed 3(10.5%) of the respondents are neutral 14(79%) of the respondents are highly disagreed. For this question as I interview some of the commission workers they said the

society is not trust us because the people are suffer by this chronic and structural corruption even if the commission trying to do peoples are not trust us. The people also called it «toothless lion » just it takes the name lone even some peoples don't want to call the name and where the office is there.

As I have got my interviewee respondents and the commissions 2010E.C annual report document shows they said the following challenges are challenged B/G/R/S/ACC to successfully alleviate corruption. The challenges are ; lack (shortage) of finance as they said unable to get finance refrain as to do the planned objectives as we expected, the intervention of political leadership here also the political leaders intervention on our decision paralyzes our work and mistrust to the society, the structural arrangement is only stayed on the region not arranged up to the lower structures of the society, the commission structure is directly accountable to the Benishangul Gumuz regional government administration as they seriously told me here the political intervention become hard and unable to accuse them because the regional representatives are appointed by themselves the appointees are also theirs person, externally the do process of law is not punished seriously accordingly this decreases our public trust, the logistics problem also tackled as to round investigate according to our scope of plan, absence of its own building permanent office the BGRS ACC still have not its own building bureau it worked by paying high rent for narrow and inconvenient office and the rental person increases rent fee in every season by this case the organization changes other rent house at that time we lost different documents and the like bore problems are there in this regard. So they strongly asking the region to give land for building its own office to work stably, it has also lack of man power due to the lack of workers some works loaded /overlapped on a few workers, limitedness of working by focusing on strategic issues, limitedness of seasonally revising plans and making plans functional , the leaders limitedness of stably stay in the office and leading workers in integrated manner, the commissions inaccessibility in zone and district level, limited to reach in medias to express our works to public, the release of advanced and efficient professional workers and limited skilled workers and the like accumulated challenges are the headache for the commissions effectiveness.

Graph6 Evaluating where believed corruption is rampant in Assosa town.

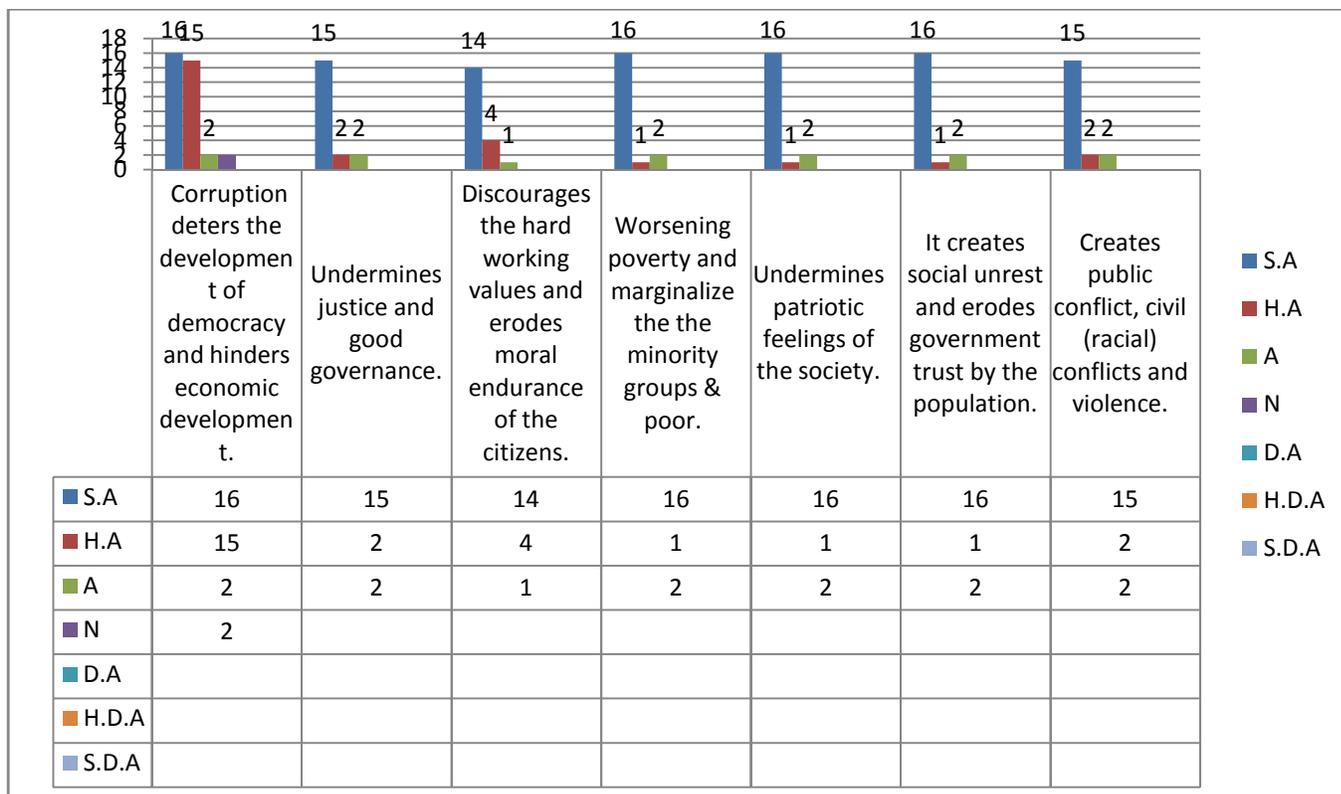


As the above data of Graph 6 shows evaluating where believed corruption is rampant in Assosa town are analyzed as follow; 1st In allocation of land distribution for home / house building; for this question 6(42%) of the respondents are agreed 1 (5%) of the respondents are neutral 2(21%) of the respondents are disagreed. As almost all of the respondents are agreed and I interview for some workers recently in Assosa town corruptions are rampantly worked on giving lands for home building association. 2nd Provision of electric city water supply from kebele to kebele; for this question 11(58%) of the respondents are agreed 3(16%) of the respondents are neutral 5(26%) of the respondents are highly disagreed. Here also even if there are provision of such basic services, but as most respondents highly agreed and me also as one parts of the society there partial distribution of services and such other services from kebele to kebele. 3rd Tax collection procedures; for this question 14(63%) of the respondents are highly agreed 2(21%) of the respondents are neutral 3(16%) of the respondents are highly disagreed. Just as a data shows in Assosa town the tax deception is believed rampant corruption in the town. 4th Giving commercial and other licences; for this question 16(42%) of the respondents are agreed 3(16%) of the respondents are highly disagreed. As the data response indicates in Assosa getting (giving) commercial or other license are within giving and taking bribe (bribery) to this long run it is believed as a common duty. 5th Giving education scholarship especially in education and health bureau; for this question 16(42%) of the respondents are agreed 3(16%) of the respondents are neutral. Almost all respondents are agreed

and I also witnessed in Assosa to get education chance or scholarships basically must be among indigenous races or nations (even among the natives if has office holder relatives gets priority) or other nationals of Assosa society can get the chances if and only if they can afford to give satisfactory bribe. So this corruption is rampant in the town. 6th Treating patients in Assosa hospital is race based; for this question 15(79%) of the respondents are agreed 2(10.5%) of the respondents are neutral 2(10.5%) of the respondents are highly disagreed. As Almost all respondents are agreed here the corruption is not material or cash money rather it patient treatment as the society criticises and appeals when one patient is suddenly suffered by disease or other the patient is treated properly and timely if he/she have relatives, race connection) or has a bosom friend. So this looked as rampant corruption in Assosa town.

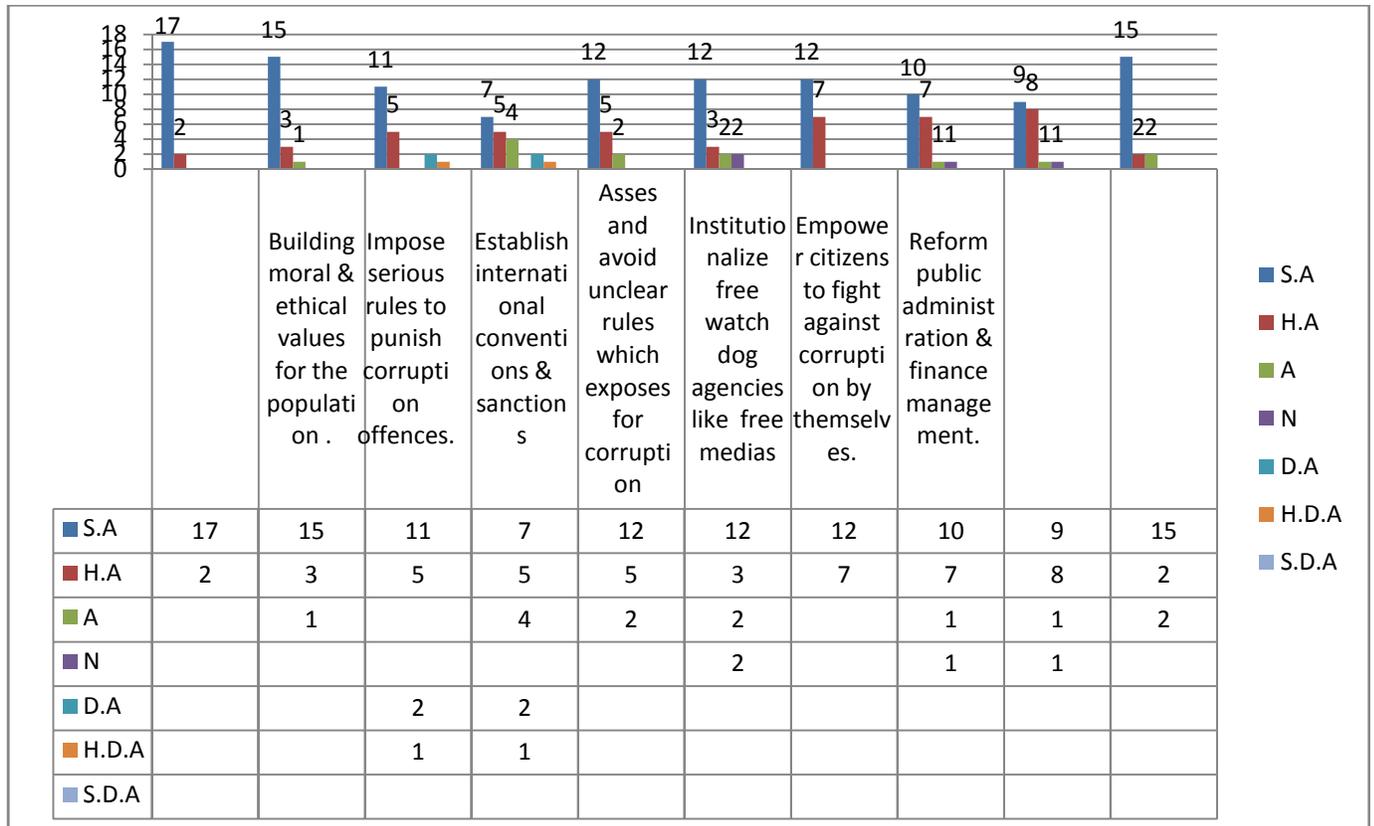
In addition to the above from my interviewee I have got the following considerations that corruption is believed to rampant in Assosa are; possession registration, Assosa town land Administration, locality service delivery, tax deception, commercial licence, construction, rural road construction, race based service delivery, cobblestone installation and the likes are believed rampant in Assosa Town and in the region as a whole. As they said even though there are challenges for preventing this sever corruption they make two researches on the prevention and visibility study with Assosa University.

Graph7 The Consequences of rampant corruption



As already looked the data, the respondents who are participated to give their agreement on the following Consequences of rampant corruption are all of them are 100% highly agreed. So corruption deters the development of democracy and hinders economic development, Undermines justice and good governance, Discourages the hard working values and erodes moral endurance of the citizens, Worsening poverty and marginalize the minority groups & poor, Undermines patriotic feelings of the society it creates social unrest and erodes government trust by the population and Creates public conflict, civil (racial) conflicts and violence. So our Assosa town is the victims of these corruption consequence due to that of systemic, structural and rampant corruption offences practiced in Assosa.

Graph8 Possible remedies (to minimize or even at the long run to avoid) this evil corruption in Assosa town



As the above graph 8 data represents almost 95% of respondents are highly agreed for the following stated possible remedies (things must be done to minimize or even at the long run to avoid) this evil corruption in Assosa town; Creating accountability & transparency (openness) in government to the governed, Building moral & ethical values for the population as a whole through consecutive awareness in different system, Impose serious rules to punish corruption offences, Establish international conventions & sanctions, Asses and avoid unclear rules which exposes for corruption, Institutionalize free watch dog agencies like free medias, Empower citizens to fight against corruption by themselves, Reform public administration & finance management, Paying high wedge for public servants, Report each corruption offences immediately and take corrective measurements accordingly. So according to the data representation the above possible remedies are must be taken accordingly by the government bodies and the societies as a whole in Assosa even in our country.

CONCLUSION

The Benishangul Gumuz regional state ACC is organized under the proclamation number 70/2000 E.C and dawn its work in July1/2000. In order to balance the current anti-corruption duty and responsibility the previous proclamation had improved under proclamation no 133/2008 and worked its work in the region. In fact starting from its born it is worked to alleviate corruption by improving different approaches and strategies ,in this regard it has been played paramount positive roles in socio, political, economic and cultural changes in the region; even it threatens the corrupters and it gives hope for the society as they have power to accuse corrupters to the court. But due to different and complicated challenges the roles (strategic plans) of the commission are not successfully implement and impede corruption eventually erodes its public faithfulness.

Standing from my investigation the findings are concluded based on the analyzed data in the following way; in similar to other districts and zones of the region in Assosa town the impunity of persons for their level of corruption offence, on the official side the abuse of power for their nominated public power, lack of political commitment, accountability and transparency, the absence of ethical moral code of conduct and disrespect of legal rules, the low wedge and incentives paid for civil servants ,absence of effective tools for preventive corruption offences (presence of unclear laws which is convenient for doing corruption), un updated rules for corruption offences which are as flexible as like the dynamism of corruption, the peoples lack of serious attention to fight corruption and the likes are the major causes encountered in Assosa town.

Regarding to the practical practices of preventive or curative approaches (roles) and strategies the commission have the gaps on awareness creation. To prevent corruption before it occur the commission should give awareness creation in programmed and systematically arranged manner for different sects of the society, but in this regard the commission has non functional Ant-rust approach & Lubricant approach. It has also gaps on improving the public participation to be fight against corruption by themselves; the commission is far to the society to work together standing on the side of the society rather they near the people when the commission gets convenient time and needs straighten their work report, it's weak on examining and give correction for unclear laws or regulations in different public service organizations which comforts for doing corruption. The commission is weak on designing serious regulations which obliges to seriously punish corruption offences. Curatively the BGRSACC investigate, expose & prosecute corruption offences

strategically to get right and corrective measures according to the crime, but the works of the commission are not fruitful and trusted by the people due to the commissions lack of giving attention for pity corruption and does not listen poor or ordinary peoples corruption appeals & the absence of committed judicial process of the curt and politicization of the institution. Even though the BGRSACC address corruption crime reports to the concerned body but it has the gaps actively follow-up the practical implementation and the effectiveness of its report.

As the finding shows BGRSACC is internally and externally challenged while doing its role and strategic plan to fight against corruption. Internally it has the absence of its own building permanent office , lack of man power due to the lack of workers some works loaded /overlapped on a few workers, limitedness of working by focusing on strategic issues, limitedness of seasonally revising plans and making plans functional, some workers professional weak capacity, lack (shortage) of finance refrains to do the planned objectives as they expected, the stagnation of the commission on the region, the release of skilled career workers from the commission, the weak leadership strategies, lack of personal and organizational commitment and externally the political intervention, the commission structure is directly accountable to the Benishangul Gumuz regional government administration& the disloyalty by the public.

In Assosa tax collection procedure (tax deception), commercial or other license delivery, on possession /wealth/ registration, in Assosa land administration, education scholarship delivery in different civil service institutions, local service delivery, in construction and rural road construction, race based service delivery in Assosa hospital and other institutions and on cobblestone installation are the areas where corruption is believed rampant in Assosa town. If this rampant corruption is not properly and timely managed it deters developments of democracy and hinders economic development, undermines justice and good governance, erodes working values and patriotic feelings of the society, it creates social unrest and civil conflict and eventually it instigates public insurgency even worse dissolution of the country. There for to opt and minimize or even avoid corruption the following measurements should be taken; create accountability and transparency, build ethical and moral values, impose/improve serious regulations over corruption, assess and correct the unclear regulations which exposes to corruption, institutionalize free watchdog agencies, improve citizens to fight corruption, reform public administration & financial management and take right and serious punishment for each corruption crime.

RECOMMENDATION

Based on the findings of this study my recommendations are recommended for those of the following stake holders according to their concern;

- ❖ To BGRS ACC; it should take the identified case and types of corruption to work on it. which means; it should strongly work on building ethical moral code of conduct and to respect legal rules on the minds of the society, should updated its strategy as flexible as like the dynamism of corruption. It should improve the public participation to be fight against corruption by themselves through strongly creating awareness in programmed and systematically arranged manner for different sects of the society, it should be make functional its Ant-rust approach & Lubricant approach, it should be strong on examining and giving correction for unclear laws or regulations in different public service organizations which comforts for doing corruption & design serious regulations which obliges to seriously punish corruption offences, it should give due attention for pity corruption & listen poor or ordinary peoples corruption appeals & it should be strong minded on the effectiveness of corruption offence reports up to the final court decision. To be successfully alleviate this complex corruption in Assosa or even in the region BGRSACC should be avoid the following bounded challenges; should avoid lack of personal and organizational commitment and the political intervention, the weak leadership strategies, limitedness of seasonally revising plans and making it functional, the commission should be transform from direct accountability of the Benishangul Gumuz regional government to federal government, it should /must be work focusing on its strategic issues, should increase man power & minimize work loaded on workers, financial shortage, it should have its own building permanent office, should build workers professional capacity and minimize the release of skilled career workers from the commission. The commission should seriously work on the following areas that corruptions are believed rampant; tax deception, rural road construction, in construction, license delivery, cobblestone installation, race based service delivery in public service institutions, on wealth or possession registration, local service delivery & on pity or administrative corruption. Generally since the possible remedies are under its hand it should be strongly worked by considering the severe consequences of rampant corruption. Since it is the mandated authorized watchdog it should be take the lion-share on investigating, exposing and prosecuting corruption offences.
- ❖ To the regional government; since the BGRS ACC works for the region the government should be facilitate to be having its own permanent building office & since ACC is free watchdog the region should not be intervene on the commissions' structure /work.
- ❖ To the judiciary; should also investigate carefully the corruption offences and punish accordingly.
- ❖ To the civil servants; they should serve the society free from bias and according to the stated standards.
- ❖ To the people; the peoples should give serious attention to fight against corruption by them and expose corrupters.

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