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Keyword: corruption, public service delivery, water supply and sanitation sector, administrative corruption, political corruption.

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Keywords: corruption, public service delivery, water supply and sanitation sector, administrative corruption, political corruption.

I. Introduction

Water supply and sanitation service corruption remains one of the most pervasive and the least confronted issues. It engulfs many region of the world, but more devastating and serious in developing countries like sub-Saharan Africa countries, not because their people are different from people elsewhere, but because conditions are ripe for it. It makes water and sanitation service scarce, absent, inaccessible, unaffordable and unsafe for both urban and rural poor (Global Corruption Report, 2003). In this regard, Ethiopian has no exception.

In Transparency International's Corruption Perception Index for 2005, Ethiopia ranked 137th out of 158 countries and its civil services were considered as bureaucratic, inefficient, and lacking transparency and good governance (Pathak J, et al., 2008). According to the corruption survey that conducted by the Addis Ababa University (2001), corruption is believed to be rampant in areas where financial resources are transferred from the private to the public sector and vice versa. Other agencies where corruption is believed to be flourishing include those engaged with the allocation of land and government housing, provision of water, telephone and electric services, granting of loans, licensing and issuance of permits, collection of taxes and procurement of consumable and fixed assets.

Water supply and sanitation sector is highly vulnerable to corruption and mal-governance crisis. The key drivers of corruption in Ethiopia water and sanitation sector are poor governance, lack of accountability and transparency, low levels of democratic culture and traditions, lack of citizen participation, lack of clear regulations and authorization, low level of institutional control, extreme poverty and inequity, and centralization of authorities and resources(Pathak R, et al., 2008).

In Ethiopia water supply and sanitation sector corruption looked from political and administrative perspective. Political corruption occur at the highest level of political authority amongst politicians and political decision makers, who one entitled to formulate, establish and implement the laws in the name of the people. These people are greedy because they displace the common interest with private interest. The bureaucratic/ administrative corruption on the other hand, occurs in water supply and sanitation service delivery particularly at the implementation ends of politics or water supply and sanitation service delivery including connection, disconnection, reconnection , meter reading etc.(FEACC, 2003).

Currently, administrative and political corruption still remain the main challenge in water supply and sanitation service delivery and manifested in terms of bribery, extortion, embezzlement, nepotism, theft, cheating, trickery, fraud/ speedy money and prejudice in water and sanitation service delivery process (Schacter and Shah, 2000). Corruption tends to diffuse across all regions of the country, whereas the scope and degree of its occurrence varies from region to region. Specially it is persistent in urban area and makes water supply and sanitation service inadequate, unsafe, and unaffordable for urban poor. It drains valuable economic

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resources, creates resentment and frustration among the staff as well as reduces organization efficiency in providing accessible, adequate, safe and affordable water and sanitation services to the community (UNDP, 2006). Such inadequate sanitation, poor hygiene and unclean water supply result in sickness and death of many urban people every year (FEACC, 2011).

Moreover, corruption result in higher health costs, lower productivity, lower school enrollment and retention rates of girls and perhaps most importantly the denial of the rights of people to live with dignity (UNICEF, 2006). This also true for Jimma town where corruption affects healthy provision of water and sanitation service and intensify the crucial challenge of water and sanitation governance. The existence of corruption increases competition for water & sewerage services in the town.

Some researchers like Lambsdorff, 2001, Ndou, 2004 and Pathak J, et al., 2008 have conducted on corruption in different sectors but most of them indicate how to curb corruption and increase transparency, accountability, responsiveness, & integrity in public service delivery. However there is no research that undertaken regarding to corruption practices especially the type, forms and range of corruption that occurs and afflicts water supply and sanitation service delivery. Therefore, this research is expected to assess the current situation of corruption, types and its main drivers in Jimma town water supply and sanitation sector.

II. Objectives of The Study

a) General objective

The main objective of this study is to assess the current status, intensity, and type of corruption that recognized in Jimma town water supply and sanitation service delivery.

b) Specific objectives

The Specific objectives of the study are:

- To assess the current status of corruption that occurs in Jimma Town water supply and sanitation service delivery
- To identify the main causes of corruption in Jimma town water supply and sanitation service delivery
- To examine types and forms of corruption that exist in Jimma town water supply and sanitation service delivery

III. Literature Review

a) Corruption in Water Supply and Sanitation Sector

Water supply and sanitation sector corruption can generally be understood in terms of bureaucratic or petty corruption in which a vast number of officials abusing public office extract small bribes and favors/special treatment; grand corruption meaning the use of vast amounts of sector funds by a relative small number of officials; or state capture seen in the collusion between public and private actors for private benefit. These corruption practices take the form of (i) abuse of resources – theft and embezzlement from budgets and revenues, (ii) corruption in procurement which results in overpayment and failure to enforce quality standards, (iii) administrative corruption in payment systems, and (iv) corruption at the spot of service delivery (Schechter and Shah, 2004).

Corruption in water and sanitation sector varies substantially in size and incidence, but it is likely that somewhere in the region of 20-40% of water and sanitation sector finances is being lost to those tasked with the decision-making and delivery of water and sanitation services (Davis J, 2003). The type, size and incidence of corruption in service delivery in urban area may be a function of the path of legislative reform, the nature of the water market, or the way the sector has been managed, or it may be an outcome of decentralization, the role of social structures and civil society. Unmonitored, low capacity, lack of competition, all potentially contributes to local level corruption, capture and collusion that practiced in water supply and sanitation service delivery (WB, 2003).

b) Causes of Water Supply and Sanitation Sector Corruption

Corruption takes place in water supply and sanitation sectors due to the presence of a number of factors. An understanding of such factors requires, among other things, a kind of general framework for a clearer understanding of the causes of corruption, especially from a broader perspective. Genesis of corruption can be explained by looking at three levels - international, national and individual institutional levels (Goudie and Strange, 1979).

Like all corruption in developing and transitional economies, corruption in water and sanitation sector in Africa is founded in historical, political and social realities. The causes of corruption are not sectoral because always it's contextual, rooted in policies, bureaucratic traditions, political development, and social history of the country. However, TI (2012) describes corruption as the most prevalent and insidious product of poor governance such as lack of accountability, responsiveness, and transparency among water and sanitation service providers and facilitators (Davis J., 2003). Lack of check and balance; complex service delivery system; less transparency in government policies, rules, strategies, and regulations; lack of supervisions; poor compliant handling mechanism; limited access to information for citizens; inadequate training and equipment for water supply and sanitation sector departments and political wills or political pressures that exist in a country are a common contributing factors for corruption in water supply and sanitation service delivery (Ibid).

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In many parts of the African countries, water supply and sanitation sector has been overwhelmed with the widespread of corrupt practices because of monopoly power, wide discretionary power, and lack of accountability and transparency among the water and sanitation service providers and facilitators (Telmon, 2002). Klitgaard's definition of corruption: Corruption = (Monopoly + Discretion) – (Accountability+ Integrity + Transparency) is very relevant to recognize water supply and sanitation sector corruption in Africa in that it highlights the aggregate effect of monopoly and discretionary power. A strong characteristic of agencies and officials involved in the sector and their enormous discretion in planning, design, contracting, implementation and monitoring of water supply and sanitation service delivery compounded by a lack of clarity of rules and regulation(klitgaard, 1998).

In contrast to other sectors water supply and sanitation sector is highly vulnerable to corruption because of the large flow of public money; often uncoordinated donor, national and local funds; the opacity, political interference and discretion in investment decisions; the monopolistic nature of service delivery, coupled with the failure of sector financing and cost recovery, problematic tariffs and subsidies, and the increasing role of the informal market; the cost of sector assets; the asymmetry of information between user and provider, and the complexity of sector stakeholders, systems, levels of service, institutional roles and functions(Lambsdorff,2001).

The main reason behind all this, the problems of governance crisis in which transparency, accountability, responsiveness, and effective management are lacking. In addition to this, little political commitment, little private sector involvement, excessive centralization of power and limited engagement of civil society, community, NGOs and media in water supply and sanitation service delivery process increase the opportunity for corruption because corruption loves multiple and complex regulations with ample and un-checkable official discretion (J. Plummer & P. Cross, 2005).

As the cause of corruption is always contextual, rooted in political social, cultural, economic, historical and bureaucratic tradition, the corruption that occurs in water supply and sanitation sector are also differ in type, scope, extent and consequences.

c) Types of Water Supply and Sanitation Sector Corruption

Corruption in the water sector comes in many different forms and the scope varies substantially across types of water supply and sanitation sector practices, governance structure and the perceptions and norms of actors involved. The typical examples of corruption include falsified meter reading, distorted site selection of boreholes or abstraction points for irrigation, collusion and favoritism in public procurement, and nepotism in the allocation of public offices (Davis J, 2003).

The variation in sorts of corruption activities is partly explained by the large number of different kinds of actors engaged in the water sector. In the public domain, this includes political leaders, policy makers, procurement and regulation officials, law enforcement agencies, and technical staff, as well as international development partners. Civil society plays a vital role via stakeholder facilitation, allowing demands and discontent to be voiced and playing a key role in advocating reform. Notable actors include the media, water stakeholder associations, environmental protection groups, as well as religious leaders concerned with social justice and sustainable development (P. Cross and J. Plummer, 2009).

According to Federal Ethics and Anti Corruption Commission (FEACC) political/grand, bureaucratic /administrative corruption, state capture, economic corruption are highly recognized and documented in water supply and sanitation service delivery. But, the study mainly focuses on grand and administrative corruption because of perverseness and seriousness in the provision of water and sanitation service (FEACC, 2003)

Political corruption occurs when political elite change either the national policies or the implementation of national policies to serve their own interest. It occurs when the behaviors deviate from the principles that guide politics and policies, adapting decisions with abuse of power, which means that the private interests displace the public and common interests. Political corruption distorts policies or central functioning of the state, enabling leaders to benefit at the expense of the water supply and sanitation services (Bardhan, 1997). Political corruption mostly common in the award of large contracts for construction works, equipment, or concessions to operate major water and sewerage systems as well as frequent in the purchase of equipment and materials. The city mayor and an executive of the multinational water company together participated in accepting and paying bribes in the letting of concessions to run the city's water supply and sewerage services (Cisar, 2003).

Administrative corruption results in transfer of public benefits to private benefits taking advantage of the entrusted power, as for example, in the form of nepotism that results in the transfer of benefits from society to family members. Mostly it occurs at the implementation end of politics, where the public officials or bureaucrats meet the public It also involves bribery, fraud, embezzlement, favoritism, and other benefits generated at the expense of public benefits. Petty/ administrative corruption reported most frequently in meter readings (payments for falsifying meter readings), connection, disconnection and reconnection of water supply and sewerage systems ways as well as when the

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household made payments to expedite attention to repair work(Bardhan,1997).

IV. Research Design and Methodology

a) Research Design

The methodology applied for this study was a mixed approach consisting of qualitative and quantitative research methods with descriptive theme. The rationale for the use of descriptive research method is that it is more helpful to describe and interpret the current trends, types and main drivers of water supply and sanitation sector corruption. It was also more appropriate and relevant in order to achieve the objectives of the study.

b) Sources of data

Both primary and secondary data was mainly accessed from various sources so as to generate appropriate information for this study. Primary data was mainly collected from Jimma town residents whereas, secondary sources of data were collected from both published and unpublished materials in reference to the issues under investigation.

c) Target population

The targeted populations for this study were permanent residents of Jimma town which are clients of water supply and sanitation sector and legally registered on their respective kebeles. In addition, Jimma town water supply and sanitation sector officials, and other concerned bodies included and interviewed to probe further and to validate the findings.

d) Sample and sampling method

Multi-stage sampling was adopted and used to select sample respondents for the study. This sampling method was selected in order to draw representative sample for the study. Population density, economic status and geographical location were considered as the defining variables to set administrative units or kebeles in to seven (7) clusters. Then, a random sampling method was used to select one kebele from each cluster. Totally seven kebeles (BosaKito, Hermata, Merkato, Ginjo, Mendara Kochi, Hermata, Bacho Bore and GinjoGuduru) were selected as sample kebeles from which respondents drawn. Finally, 400 total households were proportionally selected from those seven selected kebeles using convenience sampling method.

e) Method of Data Collection

Personally administered questionnaire (both close-ended and open-ended questionnaires), interviews (semi-structured interviews), and document analysis were used to obtain relevant and all necessary data for the study.

f) Method of Data Analysis

For this study both quantitative and qualitative methods was used to analyze, describe and interpret data. The analysis of quantitative data was carried out first and the qualitative data followed. The quantitative data were analyzed through descriptive statistics such as frequency, percentage, means, and standard deviation whereas; qualitative data were analyzed by using qualitative method of data analysis.

V. Results and Discussion

a) Current Status and Ranges Water Supply and Sanitation Service Corruption

Corruption has been cited as one of the most prevalent and persistent challenges in public service institutions including water supply and sanitation sectors or agencies. The motivation to earn income through corrupt practices is extremely strong, exacerbated by lack of accountability, transparency, and integrity; poverty and by low and declining civil service salaries (Pathak et al., 2008). In the light of this, the respondents were asked to indicate current status and ranges water supply and sanitation service corruption in Jimma town and their response is presented, analyzed, discussed and interpreted as hereunder.

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Table 1: Respondents' response about the current status of water supply and sanitation sector corruption

	Items	Ranges of water supply and sanitation service corruption										Total			
		V L		L		MH		VH		F H					
		N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	M	SD
Current status of corruption in water supply and sanitation sector	Decreasing	53	43.0	70	57.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	123	100	1.6 0.045	0.772
	Increasing	0	0.0	0	0.0	49	18.0	69	25.0	159	57.0	277	100	4.43 0.49	0.45
	Total	53	43.0	70	57.0	49	18.0	59	25.0	159	57.0	400	100	2.47 0.49	0.043

Key: VL= very low, L= low, MH= moderately high, VH= very high, FH= fairly high, M= mean, SD= standard deviation, SE= standard Error

The above Table1 deals with the respondent's response towards current status of water supply and sanitation service corruption. Accordingly, the perceptions of corruption in water supply and sanitation sector were found to be widely prevalent in Jimma town and a large majority of respondents 277 (69.3 percent) were responded that corruption is increasing in water supply and sanitation service agencies whereas, the rest 123 (30.7%) of Jimma town respondents felt otherwise. Similarly it also depicts the range of water supply and sanitation service corruption in Jimma town. Out of 277 respondents, a sizable majority of respondents 159 (57.4%) rated water supply and sanitation service corruption as fairly high and the rest 25.0 % and 17.6% of the respondents rated it very high, and moderately high respectively. In contrast to this, of 123 total respondents who described corruption as it was increasing in water supply and sanitation service delivery, the majority 70(56.9%) were rated the range of water supply and sanitation service corruption as low and the remaining 53(43.1%) of respondents rated it as very low.

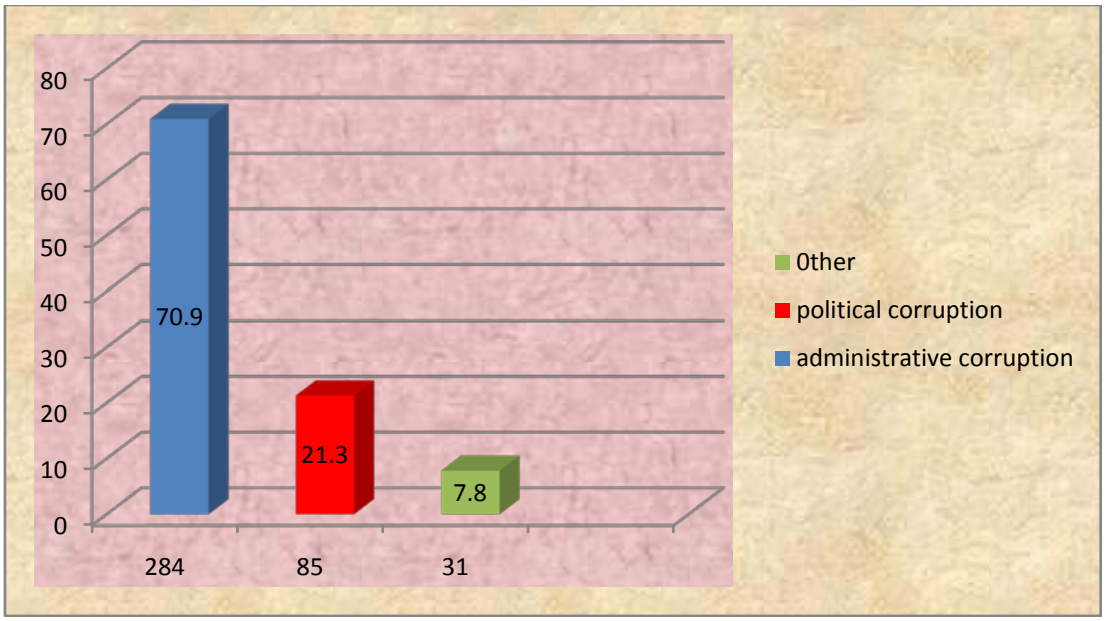
In addition to this, mean, standard deviation and standard error were computed to infer the current status of water supply and sanitation service corruption in Jimma town. Accordingly, average means that calculated for the increasing group was 4.46 and 1.60 for the decreasing group. When we compare the average mean calculated for each group, the average mean of increasing group (4.46) was two times more than the average mean calculated for the decreasing group.

From this, we can conclude that presently the status of corruption is high in Jimma town water supply and sanitation service delivery and perceptions about water supply and sanitation services appear to be negative because of high corruption. This is similar with the findings of Pathak R al., 2008 study conducted on Ethiopia public service sectors.

b) Types of Water Supply and Sanitation Service Corruption

Corruption practices come in many different kinds/types in water supply and sanitation service delivery. Figure1 below depicts the most common types of corruption currently acknowledged in Jimma town water supply and sanitation service delivery.

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Source: Own survey, 2014

Figure1: Types of water supply and sanitation sector corruption

The chart clearly deploys the dominance of administrative/or petty corruption in water supply and sanitation service delivery consisting 70.9 percent, followed by political or grand corruption accounts for 21.3 percent. The rest insignificant number of respondents 7.8 percent were identified other types of corruption (economic and state capture) in the provision of water and sanitation service. This is similar with the finding of Davis (2003). She found administrative and political corruption in South East Asia water supply and sanitation sector. FEACC (2003) also identified administrative or bureaucratic corruption as the most dominant type of corruption in water supply and sanitation sectors.

As water and sanitation is an immensely political issue, wide open to manipulation, globally, nationally, and locally open to capture and conflict among communities and households. The dialogue over corruption in water supply and sanitation service delivery must reflect the diversity in forms, practices, and actors, their motivations and levels of impact. It is vital that water supply and sanitation sector and their officials need to learn about the forms of corruption taking place in water supply and sanitation service delivery in order to identify the impacts and develop practical and targeted anti-corruption policies and tools. Thus, the effort has been made to identify the most common forms of corruption in Jimma town water supply and sanitation service delivery. Accordingly, bribery, nepotism, fraud/ speedy money, trickery, embezzlement, extortion, theft, collusions and prejudice were practiced in Jimma water supply and sanitation sector. However, bribery, nepotism; fraud and theft were very common and highly practiced in water supply and sanitation delivery.

Generally we can conclude that administrative corruption is currently very common and remain a great challenge in Jimma town water supply and sanitation service delivery and it manifest itself in the form of bribery, nepotism, fraud or speedy money and theft.

c) Concentrated area of water supply and sanitation service corruption

The survey result reveals that water supply and sanitation service corruption was the result of public to public, public to private, and public to consumer interactions and these interactions occur along the five cycles of water supply and sanitation sector starting from high level policy making to household payments. According to FEACC (2003) all functions of water supply and sanitation sector (policy making& regulation; planning, budgeting & transfers; design, tendering & procurement; construction, and management and payment systems) are exposed to the problem of corruption and governance crisis. However, its degrees varies among water supply and sanitation service delivery functions or stages based on the number of actors or stakeholders involved in corrupt practices. In relation with this, management and payment for service; construction and operation; design, tendering and procurement, and planning, budgeting and transfers were consecutively perceived as the highly corrupted functions of water supply and sanitation service delivery

Some study like Davis J, (2003) conducted in South East Asia water supply and sanitation sector, Pathak R, et al, (2008) and FEACC, (20012) in Ethiopia public service sectors identified similar areas of water supply and sanitation sector that exposed to corruption and governance related problems.

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Despite the structures (reforms) put in place to combat the dissatisfaction or at least reduce it to its barest minimum, corruption stills continues to be endemic, in Ethiopia water supply and sanitation service particularly in payment and access, construction and operations, planning, budgeting and fiscal transfers with its attendant implications for effective service delivery and welfare of the people (FEACC, 2003).

d) The main causes of water supply and sanitation service corruption

The main causes of corruption in water supply and sanitation service delivery were discussed as hereunder.

Table 2: The main causes of water supply and sanitation service corruption

Items	Responses							
	TD	DA	SA	MA	TA	N	MD(t)	sig. at
	N	N	N	N	N	N		
1. Monopolistic nature of service delivery	9	63	75	157	96	400	.415	.000
2. Wide discretionary power given to water supply and sanitation sector officials	47	52	48	99	154	400	.328	.000
3. Lack of good governance(transparency, accountability and integrity)	11	20	48	192	129	400	.1.030.	000
4. Poor institutional incentives	22	201	31	120	38	400	-.119	.038
5. Lack of punishment and effective corruption reporting mechanism	38	288	43	13	11	400	.818	.000
6. Inflation, social, cultural factors and custom of the society	29	211	18	81	73	400	.102	.113

TD= totally disagree, DA= disagree, SM= somewhat agree, MA= mostly agree, TA= totally agree, MD= mean difference or t scores

As indicated in the above table (result of independent simple t test), monopolistic nature of service delivery; discretionary power of water supply and sanitation sector officials; faulty governance (where accountability, transparency, integrity, & responsiveness are lacking); and lack of punishment and effective corruption reporting mechanism in water supply and sanitation sector were significantly observed as the main drivers of water supply and sanitation service corruption. However, poor institutional incentives, and inflation, social, culture and custom of the society were considered as in significant in promoting corruption in Jimma town water supply and sanitation service delivery.

As per the information obtained from the interview results, lack of effective corruption reporting mechanism; lack of honesty; complex and unclear rules, regulations and procedures; acceptance of bribe as a way of life; ineffective judiciary; lack of punishment, and inadequate training of officials and lack effective supervision also generate the problem of corruption in Jimma town water supply and sanitation service delivery. The Klitgaard (1998) corruption formula: Corruption = (Monopoly power + Discretionary power) – (Accountability + Transparency) that provided in the context of Bolivia municipal water supply and sanitation service delivery was also supported by this study to describe water supply and sanitation service corruption in Jimma town.

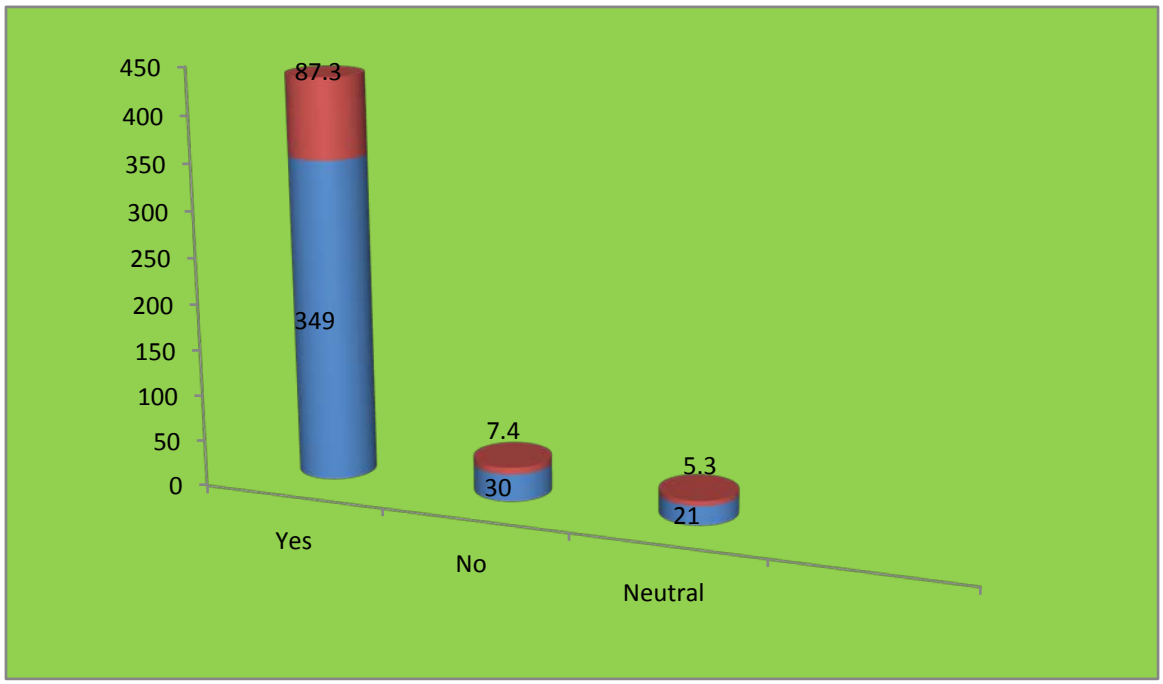
This is also related with what has been found by Davis J (2003) in South East Asia water supply and sanitation sector. She identified that monopolistic nature of service delivery; discretionary power given to water supply and sanitation sector worker; and lack of transparency, accountability, capacity, responsiveness and integrity, inflation and low salaries as the main drivers of water supply and sanitation service corruption. However, inflation and low payment of salaries were insignificant in promoting corruption in Jimma town water supply and sanitation service delivery. Thus, the study supports the findings of Davis J except inflation and low payments of salaries because they were insignificant in describing water supply and sanitation service corruption in Jimma town.

e) Constraints in water supply and sanitation service delivery

In literature corruption has been cited as one of the major challenges that affect water supply and

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sanitation service delivery. With regards to this, respondents were asked whether corruption is problematic in Jimma town water supply and sanitation service delivery or not. The study revealed that corruption was problematic and still continues to threaten water supply and sanitation service delivery.



Source: survey, 2014

Figure 2: The Problem of corruption in water and sanitation service delivery

According to the survey result shown in above bar chart, the majority 349 (87.3%) of the respondents were viewed corruption as it was the most common and serious constraints in water supply and sanitation service delivery. Only small number of respondents 30(7.4%) were described corruption as it was less common and less problematic in water supply and sanitation service delivery , only small respondents 21(4.3%) were fail to say anything as corruption is problematic or not in water supply and sanitation service delivery. From this, one can conclude that corruption is persistent and continue to be a problematic in water supply and sanitation service delivery because of lack of accountability and transparency among water and sanitation service providers and facilitators.

In spite of recent increases in transparency and accountability in water supply and sanitation sector, numerous challenges affect capacity to meet sector needs as well as its internal working in the provisions of services (Pathak B, et al.,2008)). Among these, cost, time factors and red tape procedures are the major one.

f) Time, cost and red tape procedures in water supply and sanitation service delivery

The prevalence of corruption increases bureaucratic (red tape procedures), time and cost factors and pose great challenges in providing water and sanitation services. Thus, the challenges of time, cost and red tape procedures in water supply and sanitation service delivery are summarized as hereunder.

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Table 3: Time, cost and red tape procedures in water supply and sanitation service delivery

Items	Responses										Total				
	TD		DA		SA		MA		TA				Mean	St. d	St. Error
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%			
Time and cost factor is a problematic	7	1.8	9	2.2	40	10	81	20.2	263	65.8	400	100	4.46	.890	.045
Time and cost factor makes no difference	46	11.5	48	12	61	15.2	80	20	165	41.2	400	100	3.68	1.1407	.070
Time and cost factor is not a problematic	117	29.2	111	27.7	96	20.9	61	13.2	15	3.5	400	100	2.36	1.162	.058
Red tape procedures are problematic	12	3	13	3.20	62	11.90	86	21.4	227	56.6	400	100	4.26	1.029	.051
Red tape procedures make no difference	164	41.	142	35.5	49	12.2	31	7.8	14	3.5	400	100	1.97	1.077	.054
Red tape procedures are not a problematic	177	44.2	130	32.3	63	15.8	17	4.2	13	3.2	400	100	1.90	1.027	.051

Key: TD=Totally Disagree, DA=Disagree, SA= Somewhat Agree, MA = Mostly Agree, TA=Totally Agree

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The study result in the above table revealed time and cost factors in securing services was the biggest obstacle or problematic in dealing with water supply and sanitation service delivery and the major cause of concern. Time and cost factors refers to the cost service users of time spent in going to water supply and sanitation service agencies or offices and awaiting results and the majority of respondents in Jimma town found it difficult to get their grievances redressed in time.

In the view of respondents, red-tape was also found to be a major problem in Jimma town water supply and sanitation service delivery because of excessive centralization, corruption and favoritism. In water supply and sanitation service delivery there are cumbersome procedures and rules to follow that leads to issues of red-tape, corruption and favoritism (preferential treatment). This, impacts the time factor in service delivery, as it becomes slow and unresponsive to customer needs. This further affects the cost factor. For instance running back and forth to water supply and sanitation service agency, includes lots of money and time resource wastage; which further occurs as a result of the rules/procedures.

Generally, based on the average mean computed in the above table 3, the survey confirms that time, cost factors and public red-tape procedures were perceived as the major problems in Jimma town water supply and sanitation sector because of excessive centralization, corruption and favoritism.

VI. Conclusion and Recommendations

Water supply and sanitation service delivery has received due policy attention by the Ethiopian Government. The adoption of the national water and sanitation policy, and the water and sanitation strategy and water and sanitation sector development program (WSSDP) are evidences of the emphasis given to the sector. Furthermore, the new national growth and transformation plan (GTP) aspires to achieve coverage of 98 and 100 percent for rural and urban areas respectively by the year 2015. However, the current performances of Jimma town shows that it's impossible to reach the targets set because of the wide spread of corruption and governance related problems in water supply and sanitation sector.

The study found that administrative and political corruption is common in Jimma town water supply and sanitation service delivery. Regarding the major forms corruption, the study recognized bribery, theft, fraud or speedy money, embezzlement and collusions as the most common forms of corruption in which administrative and political corruption manifest itself in water supply and sanitation service delivery. Among functions of water supply and sanitation sector, management and payment for service; construction and operation; design, tendering and procurement, and planning, budgeting and transfers were consecutively perceived as highly corrupted areas in water supply and sanitation service delivery.

This manly because of monopolistic nature of service delivery; discretionary power of water supply and sanitation sector officials; faulty governance (where accountability, transparency, integrity, & responsiveness are lacking); and lack of punishment and effective corruption reporting mechanism in water supply and sanitation sector. Moreover, the problem of corruption increases of the problem of bureaucracy (red tape procedure), time and cost constraints in Jimma town water supply and sanitation service delivery. Thus, setting systems and structures that can reduce incidences of corruption and ensure efficient delivery of services, use modern information communication technologies, awareness creation, support the participation of stakeholders, creation of strong cooperation between governmental and non-governmental actors, developing institutional anti-corruption strategy are highly recommended to fight against water supply and sanitation sector corruption.

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