

CORRELATES ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE SEAL OF GOOD LOCAL GOVERNANCE AND ITS ATTAINMENT OF OBJECTIVES AMONG LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNITS IN MAGUINDANAO II

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Abstract

Public management contributes to the development process through the improvement of the management system, which delivers the service to the public. Currently, in the Ministry of the Interior and Local Government (MILG) and in Maguindanao Province in particular, no study yet has been made regarding the correlates on the implementation of the of seal of good local governance and its attainment of objectives among local government units. This study aims to determine if the Seal of Good Local Governance influence the local government units in improving government service delivery and the capacity of local governments. A survey questionnaire was utilized in the gathering of data of different local elected and appointed officials of the Municipalities of Datu Abdullah Sangki; Datu Paglas; Guindulungan; Matanog; and South Upi all of Maguindanao Province. A correlation analysis of data shows that there is a positive significant relationship between the seven assessment criteria implemented (financial administration; disaster preparedness; social protection; peace and order; business-friendliness and competitiveness; environmental management; and tourism, culture and the arts) to seal of good local governance (SGLG) attained in terms of integrity and good performance. The Ministry of the Interior and Local Government – Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao and other Local Government Units in the country would find the results of this study valuable as basis of setting policies, systems and procedures which may strengthen the performance of the local government units towards the Seal of Good Local Governance.

Keywords: Seal of Good Local Governance, Local Government Units, Public administration, MILG, BARMM, Correlation analysis, Maguindanao, Philippines

INTRODUCTION

Good governance has become an important tool to fulfill desired outcomes in development, modernization, civil society and globalization. It acknowledges not only the quality of institutions but the integrity and capacity of the politicians and bureaucrats. Strengthening local governance and making it more responsive, transparent and democratic through various decentralization and devolution plans was, therefore, considered an important component of aid based on good governance. (Nadeem, 2016)

In the Philippine history, it has been plague by questions of legitimacy, accountability, transparency and alongside problems of inefficiency and corruption in government. Such inefficiencies and ineffectiveness are inefficient capacity of the local government units to respond to emergencies when needed, vulnerable or disadvantaged sectors are not being recognized, cumbersome government procedures slow down the delivery of public service and increase transaction costs, insufficient capacity of the local government units in maintaining and responding to peace and order, lack of local government units initiative to institute policies and programs that consistently and significantly

preserves and protects the integrity of the environment as well as mitigation and adaptation to climate change, and lastly, inability to promote and protect their local heritage and culture. These persistent issues are a significant hurdle in the realization of the goals of local autonomy and devolution through good local governance and effective service delivery. Hence, the outburst voice of the people for change had been widely given emphasis. With this, different concepts, studies and ideas from different authors have been made in determining the performance of the local government units towards good governance.

This implies that in order to have a productive social and economic development it must be anchored to the performance of a public servant since they are quite similar realms when looking at why good governance matters.

In cognizant to this, the vision of late Interior Secretary Jesse Robredo for the local government units was reflected in his philosophy when he said, thus:

“You must always remember that you can not give what you do not have. Measure success in terms of how pleased you are with what you have done and not as how people define it, with its attendant perks.”

In this connection, the Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG) launched program that seeks to promote and incentivize it at the local level - the Seal of Good Local Governance (SGLG) or Pagkilala sa Katapatan at Kahusayan ng Pamahalaang Lokal which aims to promote strong and responsive governance among the Local Government Units (LGUs) and answers the clamor of the people for integrity and in public service. Thus, to provide a greater challenge for the local government units to continue their good governance practices while providing better services and, at the same, expanding the coverage of the assessment, the DILG continues to raise the bar of good local governance and scaled-up Seal of Good Local Governance (SGLG) every year leading to now part of the law of the land which is Republic Act No. 11292 also known as “The Seal of Good Local Governance Act of 2019”. As the assessment system progress, greater challenges awaits for the local government units’ performance across several areas specifically in Maguindanao Province.

METHODS

The research study was a descriptive-correlation research method as it aimed to determine the correlates on the implementation of the Seal of Good Local Governance and its attainment of objectives among the local government units in Maguindanao II. Descriptive-correlation method of research according to Downie and Heath (1995) is a measure of association between variables with varying level of measurement.

It is descriptive because it described the implementation of the Seal of Good Local Governance and its attainment of objectives among the local government units in Maguindanao II. Meanwhile, it is correlational since it measured the degree of relationship between the aforementioned independent variables and the Seal of Good Local Governance (SGLG) Outcome as the dependent variable.

The study was conducted at the Municipalities of Datu Abdullah Sangki; Datu Paglas; Guindulungan; Matanog; and South Upi all of Maguindanao Province - District II, BARMM.

The respondents of this study were the local elected (sangguniang bayan members) and appointed officials (department heads) of the Municipalities of Datu Abdullah Sangki; Datu Paglas; Guindulungan; Matanog; and South Upi all of Maguindanao Province - District II, BARMM

This study involves a purposive sampling of seventy (70) respondents which composed of 20 Sangguniang Bayan Members and 50 department heads from the said municipalities.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSIONS

Extent of Implementation of the Seven (7) Assessment Criteria in terms of Financial Administration, Disaster Preparedness, Social Protection, Peace

and Order, Business-Friendliness and Competitiveness, Environmental Management, and Tourism, Culture and the Arts

Table 1 presents the extent of implementation of the Seven (7) Assessment Criteria in terms of Financial Administration which revealed that the respondents rated financial administration as very high with a grand mean of 3.78. This implies that the local government units practice accountability and transparency by adherence to accounting and auditing standards and compliance with the Full Disclosure Policy, sound management of resources, and optimal utilization of available mechanisms and resources to support local development.

As stated in Republic Act No. 6713 or also known as “Code of Conduct and Ethical Standards for Public Officials and Employees” (1989), it is the policy of the State to promote a high standard of ethics in public service. Public officials and employees shall at all times be accountable to the people and shall discharge their duties with utmost responsibility.

Table 1

Mean rating of the extent of implementation of the Seven (7) Assessment Criteria in terms of financial administration

n=70

Financial Administration	Mean	Descriptive Interpretation
1. The LGU complies with Commission on Audits’ Opinion based on the fairness of the financial statements prepared at the end of each fiscal year.	3.80	Very High
2. The LGU complies with Full Disclosure Policy of Local Budget and Finances, Bids and Public Offerings.	3.84	Very High
3. The LGU utilizes their 20% component of the annual Internal Revenue Allotment or Development Fund.	3.77	Very High
4. The LGU increase their average local revenue growth for three consecutive years.	3.71	Very High
5. The LGU approves their annual budget on time.	3.77	Very High
Grand Mean	3.78	Very High

Table 2 presents the extent of implementation of the Seven (7) Assessment Criteria in terms of Disaster Preparedness which revealed that the respondents rated disaster preparedness as very high with a grand mean of 3.66. This implies that the local government units actions are proactive to prepare for disasters through mobilization of local disaster risk reduction management structures and systems, development and/or implementation of appropriate programs and plans and the use of funds provided, building competencies of concerned

personnel, and ensuring operational readiness with the availability of equipage, supplies and other resources intended for early warning and/or response.

According to Implementing Rules and Regulations of RA No. 10121, also known as “An Act Strengthening the Philippine Disaster Risk Reduction and Management System, Providing for the National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Framework and Institutionalizing the National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Plan, Appropriating Funds therefor and for other purposes”, to uphold the people’s constitutional rights to life and property by addressing the root causes of vulnerabilities to disasters, strengthening the country’s institutional capacity for disaster risk reduction and management, and building the resilience of local communities to disasters including climate change impacts. Adopt a disaster risk reduction and management approach that is holistic, comprehensive, integrated, and proactive in lessening the socioeconomic and environmental impacts of disasters including climate change, promote the involvement and participation of all sectors and all stakeholders concerned, at all levels, especially the local community.

Table 2

Mean rating of the extent of implementation of the Seven (7) Assessment Criteria in terms of Disaster Preparedness

n=70

Disaster Preparedness	Mean	Descriptive Interpretation
1. The LGU conducts regular municipal disaster risk reduction and management council meeting.	3.71	Very High
2. The LGU establish municipal disaster risk reduction and management office with organize, train, equip and supervise local emergency response teams.	3.71	Very High
3. The LGU formulates plans: CLUP, LDRRM Plan & Budget, LCCAP, Contingency Plan, CBDRRM plans.	3.71	Very High
4. The LGU operates a multi-hazard early warning system.	3.57	Very High
5. The LGU establish evacuation center.	3.63	Very High
Grand Mean	3.66	Very High

Table 3 presents the extent of implementation of the Seven (7) Assessment Criteria in terms of Social Protection which revealed that the respondents rated social protection as very high with a grand mean of 3.67. This implies that the local government units respond to the needs of disadvantaged sectors like women, children, senior citizens, indigenous peoples and persons with disability (PWD), urban poor, among others, by managing facilities or services that cater to their needs such as providing support to basic education, enhancing means of social welfare services, and sustain health policies and programs that would strengthen and promote the well-being.

According to United Nations (2000), social protection as a set of public and private policies and programs undertaken by societies in response to various contingencies to offset the absence or substantial reduction of income from work,

and to provide assistance to families with children as well as provide people with basic health care.

Table 3

Mean rating of the extent of implementation of the Seven (7) Assessment Criteria in terms of Social Protection

n=70

Social Protection	Mean	Descriptive Interpretation
1. The LGU establish a mechanism for gender and development.	3.73	Very High
2. The LGU establish a mechanism for violence against women and children.	3.71	Very High
3. The LGU adheres to structural features of municipal hall and health facility to facilitate accessibility and mobility of persons with disabilities pursuant to BP 344.	3.66	Very High
4. The LGU presents health facility by Philhealth to be capable of delivering particular health services.	3.63	Very High
5. The LGU attains the plans and programs targeted in the local school board plan.	3.63	Very High
Grand Mean	3.67	Very High

Table 4 presents the extent of implementation of the Seven (7) Assessment Criteria in terms of Peace and Order which revealed that the respondents rated peace and order as very high with a grand mean of 3.82.

This implies that the local government units efforts in maintaining peace and order with the implementation of activities and providing support mechanisms to protect constituents from threats to life and security and ensuring drug-free communities. Ensuring peace and security of the people is vital in maintaining economic development, social order, and political stability.

Pursuant to RA 7160 or the Local Government Code, mandates all local government units to ensure and maintain peace and order within their respective areas of jurisdiction, among other concerns.

As stated in the Philippine Development Plan (2017-2022), it exemplifies the holistic approach in addressing criminality and illegal drugs thru empowering communities by increasing their capacity to address conflict and reduce their vulnerabilities, as well as, strengthening government peace and development institutions and mechanisms to increase their responsiveness to peace, conflict, and security issues.

Table 4

Mean rating of the extent of implementation of the Seven (7) Assessment Criteria in terms of Peace and Order

n=70

Peace and Order	Mean	Descriptive Interpretation
1. The LGU conducts regular municipal peace and order council meeting.	3.84	Very High
2. The LGU implements priority action and program thrusts that facilitates maintenance of peace and order and public safety within the locality which is reflected to Peace and Order, and Public Safety Plan.	3.80	Very High
3. The LGU organizes and trains barangay peacekeeping action teams.	3.73	Very High
4. The LGU conducts regular municipal anti-drug abuse council meeting.	3.89	Very High
5. The LGU increases their drug-cleared barangays as declared by the Oversight Committee led by PDEA as Chairperson.	3.87	Very High
Grand Mean	3.82	Very High

Table 5 presents the extent of implementation of the Seven (7) Assessment Criteria in terms of Business-Friendliness and Competitiveness which revealed that the respondents rated business-friendliness and competitiveness as very high with a grand mean of 3.67. This implies that the local government units actions to bring about business and employment opportunities through systems, structures and legislation to support local economic development.

According to RA 11292 or the SGLG Act of 2019, local government units shall have unconventional initiative in encouraging local investment, together with local business enterprises and the working sector through the adoption of policies, programs, systems, structure and/or local legislation that attract and create investment opportunities, and promote a business climate conducive to sustainable business growth.

Table 5

Mean rating of the extent of implementation of the Seven (7) Assessment Criteria in terms of Business-Friendliness and Competitiveness

n=70

Business-Friendliness and Competitiveness	Mean	Descriptive Interpretation
1. The LGU demonstrates values promotion of efforts to ensure local economic growth and attract investments with establishment of an office or designation of personnel intended for it.	3.67	Very High
2. The LGU establish citizen’s charter for securing permits for new business	3.80	Very High

and business renewal.		
3. The LGU complies with simplified business processing and licensing system standards.	3.77	Very High
4. The LGU provides computerized or computer-aided tracking system for business / investment-related data.	3.56	Very High
5. The LGU enacts legislative measure to strengthen initiatives to draw local and foreign investments through appropriate policies.	3.57	Very High
Grand Mean	3.67	Very High

Table 6 presents the extent of implementation of the Seven (7) Assessment Criteria in terms of Environmental Management which revealed that the respondents rated environmental management as very high with a grand mean of 3.54. This implies that the local government units uphold the integrity of the environment.

Pursuant to RA 9003 or also known as Ecological Solid Waste Management Act of 2000, mandates local government units to utilize environmentally-sound methods that maximize the utilization of valuable resources and encourage resources conservation and recovery. However, it was found out that the implementation of the local government units conduct of regular municipal solid waste management board meeting was low with a mean of 3.49. This simply goes to show that the local government units oftentimes conduct meetings related to solid waste management. It is important to note that regular conduct of meetings by the board will strengthen the integration of ecological solid waste management and institutionalize public participation in the development and implementation of national and local integrated, comprehensive and ecological waste management programs. Another, is that the implementation of the local government units establishment of sanitary landfill or alternative technology, as final disposal was low with a mean of 3.41. This signifies that though the local government units prohibits operation of open and controlled dumpsites as final disposal, access to sanitary landfill is either ongoing construction or in partnership with another LGU's or private entity's landfill thru Memorandum of Agreement. It is important to indicate that local government units should set guidelines and targets for solid waste avoidance and volume reduction through source reduction and waste minimization measures, including composting, recycling, re-use, recovery, green charcoal process, and others, before collection, treatment and disposal in appropriate and environmentally-sound solid waste management facilities in accordance with ecologically sustainable development principles.

Table 6

Mean rating of the extent of implementation of the Seven (7) Assessment Criteria in terms of Environmental Management

n=70

Environmental Management	Mean	Descriptive Interpretation
1. The LGU conducts regular municipal solid waste management board meeting	3.49	Low
2. The LGU adopts a Ten-year solid waste management plan	3.69	Very High

3. The LGU establish materials recovery facility to safeguard the environment.	3.57	Very High
4. The LGU establish sanitary landfill or alternative technology, as final disposal.	3.41	Low
5. The LGU prohibits the use of open dumpsites for solid waste sites.	3.57	Very High
Grand Mean	3.54	Very High

Table 7 presents the extent of implementation of the Seven (7) Assessment Criteria in terms of Tourism, Culture and the Arts which revealed that the respondents rated tourism, culture and the arts as very high with a grand mean of 3.59.

This implies that the local government units efforts to promote and develop the local tourism industry, preserve and enrich cultural heritage, and advance creativity through local support.

Pursuant to RA 9593 or also known as The Tourism Act of 2009, the local government units are encourage to promote a tourism industry that is ecologically sustainable, responsible, participative, culturally sensitive, economically viable, and ethically and socially equitable for local communities. Recognize sustainable tourism development as integral to the national socioeconomic development efforts to improve the quality of life of the Filipino people, providing the appropriate attention and support for the growth of this industry. Create a favorable image of the Philippines within the international community, thereby strengthening the country's attraction as a tourism destination and eventually paving the way for other benefits that may result from a positive global view of the country. And ensure a sustainable funding mechanism for the implementation of tourism policies, plans, programs, projects and activities.

Table 7

Mean rating of the extent of implementation of the Seven (7) Assessment Criteria in terms of Tourism, Culture and the Arts

n=70

Tourism, Culture and the Arts	Mean	Descriptive Interpretation
1. The LGU establish office with permanent or designated tourism officer.	3.71	Very High
2. The LGU establish a tourist information and assistance center or desk which shall serve as one-stop information center or desk for tourist and tourism enterprises.	3.51	Very High
3. The LGU establish database or record book where tourism data are tracked and summarize.	3.50	Very High

4. The LGU utilizes budget appropriated for the conservation and preservation of cultural property.	3.64	Very High
5. The LGU maintains a record of the cultural properties under its jurisdiction.	3.63	Very High
Grand Mean	3.59	Very High

Extent of the attainment of objectives of the Seal of Good Local Governance (SGLG) Outcome in terms of Integrity and Good Performance

Table 8 presents the extent of the attainment of objectives of the Seal of Good Local Governance (SGLG) Outcome in terms of Integrity which revealed that the respondents rated integrity as very high with a grand mean of 3.73. This signifies that the Seal of Good Local Governance elevates the standard of public service of the local government units leading to the restoration of trust in public and in building integrity.

According to Civil Service Commission Chairman Francisco T. Duque III (2014), integrity is known as moral uprightness and strong adherence to honesty and fairness, is closely linked to ethics. Integrity also refers to wholeness and completeness. He further said that integrity involves doing the right thing even if nobody sees you. As public officials and employees, they have the duty of protecting not only their integrity but also that of the government. The government may be measured by the history of its words and actions, thus, this is how the people gauge integrity.

According to Cox, La Case and Levine (2008), there is no perfect definition for integrity. Integrity is one of the most important and oft-cited terms of virtue. It is also perhaps the most puzzling. For example, while it is sometimes used virtually synonymously with “moral,” “acting morally” has also been distinguished from “acting with integrity.” When used as a virtue term, ‘integrity’ refers to a quality of a person's character; however, there are other uses of the term. One may speak of the integrity of a wilderness region or an ecosystem, a computerized database, a defense system, a work of art, and so on. When it is applied to objects, integrity refers to the wholeness, intactness or purity of a thing—meanings that are sometimes carried over when it is applied to people. These authors explained integrity in terms of; (i) integrity as the integration of self; (ii) integrity as maintenance of identity; (iii) integrity as standing for something; (iv) integrity as moral purpose; and (v) integrity as a virtue.

Table 8

Mean rating of the extent of the attainment of objectives of the Seal of Good Local Governance (SGLG) Outcome in terms of Integrity

n=70

Integrity	Mean	Descriptive Interpretation
1. The LGU holds accountable to corresponding obligations that they must fulfill.	3.74	Very High
2. The LGU provides all members of the society to access policy information	3.74	Very High

such as public expenditures, administrative budget, legislative activities, policy enforcement, legal provisions, among other information that affect their lives.		
3. The LGU exercises equity, fairness and justice to all.	3.70	Very High
4. The LGU upholds the public interest over and above personal interest.	3.76	Very High
5. The LGU extends prompt, courteous, and adequate service to the public.	3.73	Very High
Grand Mean	3.73	Very High

Table 9 presents the extent of the attainment of objectives of the Seal of Good Local Governance (SGLG) Outcome in terms of Good Performance which revealed that the respondents rated good performance as very high with a grand mean of 3.72. This signifies that the Seal of Good Local Governance alleviate the performance of the local government units effectively and efficiently in terms of their financial administration, disaster preparedness, social protection, peace and order, business-friendliness and competitiveness, environmental management, and tourism, culture and the arts.

According to Pollitt (2006), over the past two decades, the introduction of performance measurements has been one of the most widespread international trends in public management. Performance Measurement is generally defined as regular measurement of outcomes and results, which generates reliable data on the effectiveness and efficiency of programs.

Studies have emphasized the importance of the quality of local officials for good government and consequently economic performance. But if the quality of leadership matters, then understanding what motivates individuals to become politicians and perform competently in office becomes a central question.

Local officials have a variety of motivations for holding public office. Some derive personal satisfaction from being in power or experience an intrinsic benefit based on a sense of civic duty; others desire to implement their preferred policies because of ideology or to satisfy special interest groups. For many, however, monetary rewards or distinguished awards are the principal motivation. A growing theoretical literature has shown that increases in monetary incentives or prestigious awards affect both the types of local officials that run for office as well as their performance.

Table 9

Mean rating of the extent of the attainment of objectives of the Seal of Good Local Governance (SGLG) Outcome in terms of Good Performance

n=70

Good Performance	Mean	Descriptive Interpretation
1. The LGU upholds the practice of fiscal discipline and sustainability, and transparency and accountability	3.79	Very High

in the use of public funds.		
2. The LGU prevents and prepares for disasters, whether natural and human-induced, in order to strengthen their resilience.	3.76	Very High
3. The LGU responds to the needs and allowing meaningful participation of vulnerable and marginalized sector of society, facilitates access to quality education for all, and implements people-oriented health programs.	3.73	Very High
4. The LGU promotes investment and employment, protecting constituency from threats to life and damage to property.	3.66	Very High
5. The LGU safeguards the integrity of the environment and optimizes tourism and enrich cultural heritage.	3.70	Very High
Grand Mean	3.72	Very High

Correlation Analysis between the implementation of the Seven (7) Assessment Criteria and its attainment of objectives of the Seal of Good Local Governance (SGLG) Outcome

Table 10 presents the result of correlation analysis between the implementation of the Seven (7) Assessment Criteria and its attainment of objectives of the Seal of Good Local Governance (SGLG) outcome, findings revealed that there was a significant relationship between variables.

This implies that the implementation of the Seven (7) Assessment Criteria which includes Financial Administration, Disaster Preparedness, Social Protection, Peace and Order, Business-Friendliness and Competitiveness, Environmental Management, and Tourism, Culture and the Arts has bearing with the attainment of objectives of the Seal of Good Local Governance (SGLG) outcome.

Results showed that out of the seven assessment criteria, the implementation of financial administration is significantly correlated with integrity and good performance indicating Pearson correlation coefficient value of 0.731 and 0.680 or .000.

This implies that when an LGU demonstrates positive and stable economic performance, and maintains, preserves and mandatorily upholds the practice of fiscal discipline, sustainability, accountability and transparency, by adhering to pertinent budgeting laws, rule, and regulations, best practices in public financial management, generally-accepted and recognized accounting and auditing standards, and full disclosure policy, it corresponds integrity and good performance.

Another is, there is a strong relationship between the implementation of the seven (7) assessment criteria and its attainment of objectives of the seal of good local governance (SGLG) outcome.

The local government units implementation on the seven assessment criteria can affect the attainment of objectives of the seal of good local governance (SGLG) outcome which will affect their performance in local administration and service delivery.

It was also pointed out that the implementation across various areas revealed that it is viable to capture results-oriented conditions and highlight critical roles of LGUs in setting the course of overall local development and that LGU performance necessitates nurturing and intensification.

In cognizant to this, the Seal of Good Local Governance should be integrated to the local government units development plans to intensify social confidence in the willingness and capacity of public institutions to fulfill their obligations to the people and reinforces existing power relationships that are themselves typically part of the development process towards good governance.

Table 10

Correlation Analysis between the implementation of the Seven (7) Assessment Criteria and its attainment of objectives of the Seal of Good Local Governance (SGLG) Outcome

Seven (7) Governance Areas	Seal of Good Local Governance (SGLG) Outcome				OVERALL ATTAINMENT	
	Integrity		Good Performance			
	r	Sig	r	Sig	r	Sig
Financial Administration	.731**	.000	.680**	.000	.737**	.000
Disaster Preparedness	.483**	.000	.662**	.000	.596**	.000
Social Protection	.620**	.000	.601**	.000	.638**	.000
Peace and Order	.547**	.000	.614**	.000	.606**	.000
Business-Friendliness and Competitiveness	.541**	.000	.634**	.000	.613**	.000
Environmental Management	.429**	.000	.604**	.000	.538**	.000
Tourism, Culture and the Arts	.619**	.000	.592**		.633**	.000

** . Correlation is significant at the 0.01 level (Highly Significant)

* . Correlation is significant at the 0.05 level

Summary of Findings

Based on results, data revealed that the extent of the implementation of the seven (7) assessment criteria in terms of financial administration is very high with a grand mean of 3.78. Also, in terms of disaster preparedness is very high with a grand mean of 3.66. Another, in terms of social protection is very high with a grand mean of 3.67. As well as in terms of peace and order is very high with a grand mean of 3.82. Along with, in terms of business-friendliness and competitiveness is very high with a grand mean of 3.67. Further, in terms of environmental management is very high with a grand mean of 3.54. Moreover, in terms of tourism, culture and the arts is very high with a grand mean of 3.59.

Furthermore, results revealed that the extent of attainment of objectives of the seal of good local governance (SGLG) outcome in terms of integrity is very high with a grand mean of 3.73, and in terms of good performance is very high with a grand mean of 3.72.

In terms of correlation analysis between the implementation of the seven (7) assessment criteria and its attainment of objectives of the seal of good local governance (SGLG) outcome, findings revealed that there was a significant relationship between variables with overall attainment r of .737 (financial administration), .596 (disaster preparedness), .638 (social protection), .606 (peace and order), .613 (business-friendliness and competitiveness), .538 (environmental management), and .633 (tourism, culture and the arts), as well as significance of .000 which is very high. Thus, the null hypothesis is rejected.

Conclusions

With considerations on the findings of the study, the following conclusions can be inferred:

1. The objectives of the Seal of Good Local Governance which are integrity and good performance can be attained through the implementation of the Seven (7) Assessment Criteria in terms of Financial Administration, Disaster Preparedness, Social Protection, Peace and Order, Business-Friendliness and Competitiveness, Environmental Management, and Tourism, Culture and the Arts.
2. The higher the compliance of the local government units to the Seal of Good Local Governance, the better is the local governments performance. Every LGUs however is unique. Hence this conclusion may not be applicable to other LGUs.

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