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2015 Annual Conference of the International Association of Schools and Institutes of Administration

Paris, France 6-10 July 2015

The International Association of Schools and Institutes of Administration (IASIA) in close collaboration with the Centre National de la Fonction Publique Territoriale (CNFPT) is organizing the 2015 Annual Conference of IASIA to be held from 6 to 10 July 2015 in Paris, France.

The conference will bring together practitioners, academics, PhD students and young researchers in public administration and management, as well as contributors from any other disciplines who will exchange on the following main theme :

« Alternative Service Delivery Arrangements »

We warmly invite you to submit your contributions on the sub-themes defined hereafter by the ten permanent working groups of IASIA:

- I: Education and Training in Public Administration
- II: Public Sector Ethics and Culture
- III: Public Sector Reform
- IV: Subnational Governance and Development
- V: Gender, Diversity and Equity
- VI: Public Sector Leadership and Governance
- VII: Public Policy, Public Decision-making and Policy Implementation
- VIII: Public Sector Human Resources Management
- IX: International Dimensions of the Public Administration
- X: Related to the Conference theme: "Alternative Service Delivery Arrangements»

An introduction to this year's theme

Governments all over the world are struggling with service delivery which is varying in effectiveness, efficiency, expedience, and producing equity. In some countries the problems in this regard are grave as large parts of their population even lack clean drinking water and electricity. In many other countries governments are unable to provide sufficient health-care or education of adequate quality. Health and welfare emergencies, such as the Ebola outbreak in West Africa and other disease-related crises further challenge the capacity of governments. In an increasing number of countries mass protests against poor service delivery are seen, sometimes such protests take the form of civil wars and extremism resulting in even more adverse circumstances thus deteriorating the already poor service delivery. In

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2015 the Millennium Development Goals should have been be reached, but the eradication of extreme poverty, infant mortality, and infectious diseases, as well as the provision of primary education, maternal health, the insurance of environmental sustainability, gender-equality and fair trade are still far away. In developed countries also, governments struggle with their service delivery and try to establish alternative service delivery arrangements to improve on the quality thereof.

Hence, the theme of public service delivery and its alternative forms is topical and urgent.

Originally the provision of collective goods was the exclusive domain of the public sector. It was its raison d'etre, its right to exist, but that time is behind us. Since the 1980s this monopoly on public service delivery has been challenged and a preference emerged for service delivery by the private sector and by introducing private sector practices in the public sector. Increasingly, public services (such as providing school lunches for children) were outsourced to private companies. Since 2005 that model is berated for its unintended but nonetheless negative side-effects and new alternative models of service delivery are being investigated. Furthermore, scholars rethink the public sectors prerogatives and duties with regard to service delivery, the need for regulation, safeguarding the public interest, the choices involved, the scope of service delivery, the level of quality, the control of health and safety standards, and financial issues, its duties concerning competition laws, the safeguard of public interest, and the ethical aspects of its relationships with delegates.

Bring back the public sector and 'bring in NGOs and civil society, try co-production and co-develop public policies' are the new adages in theories about governance and public service delivery.

What do we know about the merits of such alternative service delivery arrangements in different circumstances? Does it depend on variations of the contexts and if so, what is it that is so important in that context? Does it depend on the specifics of the policy area in which the services are delivered, or on the specific phase in the policy process one is investigating? Or are still other factors determinative for the merits of distinct alternative service delivery arrangements, and if so, can they be specified? What do the new models imply for the significance and meaning of the public sector?

This annual IASIA conference invites papers containing cutting edge theoretical and empirical research on these questions. During the conference these subjects will be debated during key-note speeches and in international panels, as well as within a working group specifically addressing this theme. In the structural working, the subject will be related to Education and Training, Public Sector Ethics & Culture, Public Sector Reform, Subnational Governance and Development, Gender, Diversity and Equity, Public Sector Leadership and Governance, Public Policies, Public Decision-making, and Policy Implementation, Public Sector Human Resources Management, and International Dimensions of the Public Administration.

www.iasia-conference2015.org/

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Working Group I: EDUCATION AND TRAINING PROGRAM: ALIGNING MISSIONS AND QUALITY

Co-Chairpersons :

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Working Group I Education and Training Programme: aligning missions and quality, is considered by many to be the "heart" of the Annual IASIA Conference. Papers presented as part of this Working Group, focusing on the enhancement of instruction, the improvement of research, and the development of high performing Schools and Institutes of Administration (SIAs), are relevant to each of the other Working Groups.

The theme of the 2015 IASIA Conference in Paris from July 6-10 is **« Alternative Service Delivery Arrangements**». This theme offers many opportunities for those wanting to present their thoughts at the sessions (sponsored) facilitating by Working Group I.

This Working Group is encouraging papers that respond to the following research questions: Competencies required by our student/participants:

What competencies are required by our students/participants to meet the challenges of designing, monitoring and evaluating these alternative service delivery arrangements (ASDA) to ensure the delivery of economical-efficient -effective-ethical and equitable public goods and services. What new skills and theories are needed by our students/participants to achieve these competencies. How do we prepare our students/participants to assess when and what types of Alternative Service Delivery Strategies are in the best interest of those we serve?

<u>Instructional methods:</u> What are the "best" methods for developing these competencies? For what types of students?

<u>Distributional methods:</u> What are the "best" ways of distributing these instructions (ie: lecturers, video, internet, learning packages, online education, etc) for achieving these competencies?

<u>Research:</u> What research needs to be carried out by staff and students on the requisites, consequences, and practices of ASDA to meet the challenges posed by attempting to achieve the state of "Good Governance."?

Potential Impact on Schools and Institutes of Administration of this global movement towards ASDA?

How do we design and manage SIAs that are responsive to the challenges of this new paradigm?

Evaluation: How do we evaluate whether our students gain these competencies?

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Schools and Institutes of Administrations:

<u>Other topics</u> relevant to the designing and managing SIAs and the enhancement of Instructions in these institutions.

Presentations directed at these questions are welcomed. These papers can be based upon empirical research, theoretical considerations, and/or case studies. For single site case studies, every effort should be made to identify the relevance of findings to other situations. In every presentation, evidence-based implications for the improvement of training and education and/or the management and design of Schools and Institutes of Administration should be clear. Proposers are encouraged to review the UNDESA/IASIA "Standards of Excellence" and their supporting criteria for possible topics and research questions (http:// www.iiasiisa.be/ecoles/fepubl/fepublstandards.htm)

Potential presenters should keep in mind that "best complete papers" submitted to this Working Group are considered for publication in the International Review of Administrative Sciences and for the prestigious Pierre De Celles Award.

Criteria used by the WGI leadership for the selection of presentations include:

- the relevance of the presentation for the study of Public Administration Pedagogy
- the relevance of the presentation for the practice of Public Administration
 Pedagogy
- the unique added value to the study and/or practice of Public Administration Pedagogy
- the soundness and consistency of the argumentation
- · the originality of the research question/problem formulation
- the significance of the findings for other SIAs
- · the quality and understandability of the writing







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Working Group II: PUBLIC SECTOR ETHICS AND CULTURE

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Project Director :

Paul COLLINS, (University of Birmingham, United Kingdom)
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The Port Elizabeth Meeting of WG II had on its agenda the issue confronting most countries concerning how corruption may be better addressed. The emphasis hitherto has been on retribution for unethical or corrupt behavior. But had it consistently or generally lived up to donor expectations. Had it consistently or generally worked in specific country contexts. It was also recognized that increasing attention was being given to addressing corruption within wider reforms such as decentralization. And within other activities or sectors – mainstreaming – rather than relying on a specific agency. Consideration had also been given to developing a more honest approach to public office through gender or faith.

Working Group II therefore looked at these and other approaches to the current emphasis on retribution and restitution. In particular it focused on the personal and ethical dimensions of anticorruption work. What makes people honest must have as much importance to any discourse on addressing corruption as any focus on sanctioning those who are not.

Although we cannot switch entirely to personal values, the technical solutions by themselves have not proved as successful as their proponents had hoped, and other approaches are essential to replace and/or complement them. This does not mean that existing approaches are to be discounted, but better balance between the two needs achieving. There are also questions of priority, sequence, timing & measurement, require discussion/evaluation – if only because discourse generally in agrees that existing approaches per se not addressing corruption. For many countries that have ratified UNCAC, fostering 'a culture of rejection of corruption' is as important as retribution and restitution.

2014 papers were discussed in relation to the overall conference theme of Good Governance. Accordingly, the papers stressed the importance of: (i) Honest political and administrative leadership to reinforce ethics regimes and uphold ethical values; (ii) The key success factor of the human element globally in relation to compliance (believing in honesty and service); (iii) The need in policy design to get beyond purely legalistic approaches and deal with the risks and cultural realities across countries: (iv) This included the role of the group; (v) Ethical performances of governments are tricky to measure and compare and (vi) finally Indicators need nuancing in terms of historical and context factors.

The 2015 Paris WGII meetings will encourage papers on ethical and cultural dimension of Alternative Service Delivery:

- I- The general perception towards Public Service Delivery (PSD) regarding ethical and cultural dimensions, both at global, national and local levels.
- II- A new context for PSD : The Post-2015 Agenda, Traditional principles of Public Service (equality of access, continuity, neutrality) vs new principles made necessary by the evolution of all societies: affirmative actions (gender, age, health...), inclusiveness, transparency, simplicity, proximity, trust, users involvement, and ethical dimension of PSD, diverse modalities for PS delivery...

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- **III-** The challenges facing an ethical PSD:
 - a) Equity and an alternative Service Delivery: service for all regardless of sex, wealth and status the poor, marginalized, those with special needs.
 - b) State failure and service restoration: rebuilding trust and legitimicay.
 - c) Corruption and service delivery: high-risk areas.
 - d) Ethics and Service Delivery at different levels and in different sectors:
 - ► National vs international
 - Central vs local
 - ➡ Education, Health, Police, Justice, Customs, Procurement, Local Governement, Political Parties....
- IV- How to create an enabling environment based on best practice for an ethical PSD to better serve the sustainable development in its 3 dimensions (social, economic and sustainable)?
 - a) Role of the International Community (UNCAC, what is the place of Ethics in the Post-2015 Agenda....)
 - b) Role of regulation and democratic governance
 - c) Alternatives: privatization, co-production, outsourcing, E-GOV, One-Stop-Shop, ... ethical risks
 - d) Role of training and education and under pinning public services values public goods and serving rather than bypassing the public interest
 - e) Role of the citizen engagement, participation and involvement of PS users/ clients, civil society both at national and global levels...







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Working Group III "PUBLIC SECTOR REFORM"

Co-chairs:

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The working group on public sector reforms aims to analyse:

- the political, social and economic factors underpinning and driving public sector reforms;
- the specific nature, purpose and intended outcomes of these reforms;
- the process and various stages of the reform implementation;
- how the reforms were/will be conducted;
- how the implementation and impact was/will be assessed.

The working group calls for papers based on the above analyses, and in accordance with the IASIA 2015 Conference theme: «alternative service delivery arrangements».

Authors are kindly asked to present their papers in the form of theoretical reflection, case studies or comparative analyses.

Papers should aim to emphasise the following issues:

- Where specific alternative service delivery arrangements fit within the public service reform process.
- The various mode of emerging service delivery arrangements and their innovative features;
- How design methods can contribute to the conception of service delivery arrangements which are adapted to needs;
- How reforms aiming to create alternative service delivery arrangements can be successful (design, participative democracy, leadership, governance, implementation and so one);
- Assessment criteria measuring the positive outcomes of alternative service delivery arrangements.

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Working Group IV: SUBNATIONAL GOVERNANCE AND DEVELOPMENT

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Globally, national government is the overarching form of organisation politically in any country. Several political formations below the national government, notably regions/provinces/ states; metropolises/cities; villages/ towns and traditional communities viewed as sub – national structures constitute the basis of all national political systems. The Working Group seeks to focus on key trends and developments in sub – national governance internationally and will interrogate these issues studies highlighting best practices thereby promoting the notion of good subnational governance

The 2015 Paris Conference will focus on four thematic issues, namely :

Democratic Decentralisation and Development : Decentralisation is an international governance strategy that espouses a more democratic, participatory and empowering approach . It is viewed as being more responsive to development needs as regional/local communities are a critical component of the public governance process. However, research conducted has revealed that decentralisation has been beneficial, but has created new development challenges and consequently cannot be seen as a panacea for all the ills of subnational government.

Regional/Local Economic Development (RLED) : Socio-economic challenges has ushered in the notion of developmental subnational government. How can SMMEs and co – operatives enhance RLED; what are the key governance challenges of RLED and are there best practices that can be replicated internationally?

Capacity Development for the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs)/Post 2015 Development Agenda : The MDGs have raised awareness, developed a broad vision and overarching framework for international development. It has shaped national and global priorities and resulted in direct subsequent actions. What is the capacities and capabilities of subnational governments to achieve the MDGs/Post 2015 Development Agenda?

Papers addressing the above-mentioned themes, as well as the general conference theme in a subnational context in the form of single country-studies, comparative experiences or even theoretical appraisal are invited.

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Working Group V: GENDER, DIVERSITY AND EQUITY

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Working Group V is concerned with examining issues of gender, diversity and equity in public service and in public policy making. We focus not only on women place in policy and governance, but also look on the differential impacts of policy and governance on women and all marginalized and minority groups. How can we better hear the voices of the marginalized, and how will policy change as a result? We are interested in these questions in both developed and developing countries, and we invite submissions that contain cutting edge theoretical and empirical research on these important topics.

The assumption of the working group is that effective representation of women and other previously voiceless groups will make government more responsive and better trusted by its citizens.

With the 2015 IASIA Conference theme focusing on 'Alternative Service Delivery Arrangements', the first of four main topics under this working group is devoted to the Conference theme:

<u>Topic #1:</u> Impact of Alternative Service Delivery Arrangements on Gender and Equity Considerations:

- Do public private partnerships have a positive or negative impact on equity, gender and diversity issues?
- To what extent do women-led NGOs serve women's interests?
- Case studies of creative service delivery arrangements that foster social equity. Here research about the success of new models of delivery of public services and their impact on women and marginalized groups will be particularly welcome.

Topic #2: Gender and Diversity Issues in Development Cooperation Management

- What are new ways used by Donor agencies to address to gender and diversity issues in their programs and how have new strategies changed outcomes?
- Social equity as a new concern in development cooperation. What models and tools are now being used, and how do these affect outcomes for marginalized groups?

Topic #3: Gender and Diversity Issues in post Arab Spring Countries:

- What is the current status of women's representation in post Arab Spring countries?
- To what extent have women been impacted by the Arab Spring uprisings?
- How has the issue 'sexual harassment' of women been dealt with in the aftermath of the Arab Spring uprisings?
- How has social equity been interpreted after the dust settled from the Arab Spring uprisings? Has social equity been achieved and in what way?
- What is the impact of the Arab Spring Uprisings on women's work life balance, employment opportunities and wages in the public service?

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Topic #4: Women Leadership in the Public Service:

- How does the leadership of women in public service and the opportunities for such leadership differ between the developing and developed countries? Do women exhibit different leadership skills? Are opportunity structures different for women and marginalized groups than they are for men? Are these differences embedded in policy, and are there examples where public policy is successfully meeting these challenges?
- What competencies define success for women as national or local public servants? And to what extent do these competencies differ for men?
- To what extent do challenges meeting women in the public service differ from the developed to the developing world? Is the 'glass ceiling' defined differently in different parts of the world?
- What policies and legislations have been enacted worldwide that positively favor women?

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Working Group VI: PUBLIC SECTOR LEADERSHIP AND GOVERNANCE

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Recently reorganized, Working Group VI maintains its interest in public management and its subfields while welcoming two additional thematic areas in leadership and governance. With particular interest in comparative analyses and those employing methodological diversity, we invite papers and proposals that focus upon:

Leadership: As alternative arrangements for the delivery of public services proliferate, the leadership role becomes more complicated. Leadership may be shared across multiple organizations in a coalition and programmatic champions may be located outside the lead organization. In multi-organizational and multi-sectoral settings, identifying common goals and key personnel can become problematic and building trusting relationships across organizational boundaries, while essential, is often difficult. While the common problems of bureaucratic leadership such as employee motivation, decision-making in political environments and resource management continue to pose challenges, alternative service arrangements pose complicated and challenging new issues.

Governance: Governance has implications that extend beyond the institutional arrangements that are the focus of policy and program design. When governmental and non-governmental agencies, philanthropic foundations, corporations and individuals work jointly to solve challenging social problems or provide essential public services, who determines what the outcomes will be to measure success? How will success or failure be evaluated? How will actors and agencies be held accountable for their performance? What financial and budgetary arrangements contribute to program success and/or sustainability? Specific institutional relationships need to be negotiated and implemented and contract management and oversight are critical skills.

Public Management: Even as governmental ministries, departments, agencies and personnel are called to adapt and perform in more complex service delivery environments, their core functions such as managing people, financial resources, and information continue to evolve and develop. How do these administrative systems and processes contribute to effective governance? How are managers held to account for administrative performance and do their operations contribute to public confidence in their effectiveness? Is there an emerging consensus about best practices for administrative systems that transcends local or specific contexts?





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Working Group VII: PUBLIC POLICY, PUBLIC DECISION-MAKING, AND POLICY IMPLEMENTATION

Co-chairs:

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- Ram Kumar MISHRA (Institute of Public Enterprise India) Email: ramkumarmishra@gmail.com

The Working Group on Public Policy, Public Decision-making and Policy Implementation focuses on issues of improving the process of decision-making in governance with adequate provider preparedness and receiving effective inputs from stakeholders belonging to all cross-sections and thereby facilitating effective policy implementation and better service delivery. The policy process in the 'public governance area' is no longer restricted to the prerogatives of formal policy-making and implementing bodies but extends to an entire 'supply-chain' which includes a variety of stakeholders like citizens, regulators, local and international sponsors, and a variety of other polities that can have an input or an impact on the policy process.

It is a known fact that public policy choice/execution is a complex agenda and this complexity creates huge ramifications on the welfare of citizens. Despite these complications, the policy making / execution process ideally in the era of new public governance is complemented / supplemented by intensive involvement of stakeholders, policy research providing evidence for policy formulation, usage of quantitative and qualitative data for informed decision making, and governance indicators scoring the effectiveness of implemented policies. Moreover and in line with the theme of the conference, the policy process is no longer an internal mechanism of public administration; rather alternative policy-making and implementation processes have emerged through the enabling power of modern communication and web-based technology along with an increased 'democratization' of the business of government; local governance being a strong manifestation of that.

This working group would provide a forum for the exchange of experiences, research and theorizations on the effectiveness of policy processes; the alternative forms of policy-making and implementation that have emerged along with the public governance discourse, and the impact of modern communication tools and platforms on public policy, public decision making and policy implementation.

Tentative themes: The working group would deal both with the issues of immediate concerns besetting public policy, public decision making and policy implementation and the alternative forms of public policy formulation, implementation and assessment in the new era of public governance. It would concern itself with macro and micro problems, local – national – global issues and traditional and most current measures dealing with the problem under reference. However, some of the tentative themes on which papers could be attempted are as follows:

- 1. Involving stakeholders in strategy building and process improvements to make public sector efficient and to deliver better services. What are some of the alternative forms of public sector delivery that have emerged and how effective they are?
- 2. Strategic review of structural and functional aspects of public sector to identifying mechanisms for improving delegation and better decision making.

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- 3. Improving public decision making process through the use of participatory mechanisms and techniques. What are the structural forms of governance necessary to institutionalize stakeholder participation?
- 4. Cross country comparisons and specific case studies from health, education, welfare, municipal sectors, including disaster management methods wherein public / private sector / NGOs collaborate for better results and to co-produce public policies.
- 5. Awareness generation and capacity building for public sector personnel for operating within inclusive and participatory policy-making and implementation processes.
- 6. Empirical studies on the effectiveness of a program / project approach to policy implantation versus more conventional approaches
- 7. Using Social accountability tools for effective service delivery to citizens
- 8. Comparative studies of the performance and effectiveness of conventional and alternative public service delivery processes.
- 9. Management of change on the policy planning, and implementation
- 10. The role of ICT in the 'democratization of the public policy process



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Working Group VIII PUBLIC SECTOR HUMAN RESOURCES MANAGEMENT

Chair:

 Christina ANDREWS, (Federal University of São Paulo, Brazil) E-mail: christina.andrews@unifesp.br

Working Group VIII – Public Sector Human Resources Management focus on people serving the people. The success or failure of public service delivery depends on how well decision-makers in the public sector create organizational environments that allow people to work productively and effectively. The 2015 IASIA conference theme – alternative service delivery – speaks directly to the objectives, problems and theoretical debates regarding human resources management in governmental organizations. Keeping the general conference theme in mind, we invite academics and practitioners from all over the world to submit papers addressing the following issues:

- 1. What have been the trends in human resources management for the past 20 years? New Public Management precepts have had any long lasting impact in the way public servants do their jobs today? How far did NPM prescriptions management by objectives, performance measurement, bonus payment, etc. gained ground in the practices of local, regional and national governments? Is the public sector, as far as human resources management is concerned, becoming similar to the private sector? How hiring processes influence the profile of public servants and the quality of service delivery?
- 2. The role of for-profit and not-for-profit organizations in public service delivery has expanded in the past few decades. Do these non-governmental organizations adopt any specific approach to human resources management that is rarely seen in the public sector? Has efficacy and efficiency in public service delivery improved due to human resources practices seen in outsourced services? What kinds of services are more likely to benefit from outsourcing? Which are the similarities and differences in human resources management in public and private organizations?
- 3. What are the newest theoretical developments regarding human resources management in the public sector? Which is the current status of the debates on Public Service Motivation, Self-Determination Theory, Street Level Bureaucracy, Self-Efficacy, and other theoretical approaches that have been applied to human resources management in the public sector? Which are the recent contributions of social psychology, psychoanalysis, sociology, anthropology, philosophy, and other disciplinary fields to the understanding of the dynamics of people within public organizations? What are the ideological and critical issues involving human resources management in the public sector?

With the purpose of opening extra opportunities for debates in Working Group VIII, we will consider for oral presentations not only finished articles, but also papers reporting on ongoing research.

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Working Group IX: INTERNATIONAL DIMENSIONS OF THE PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION

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The advances and consolidation of the field of organizational theory and organizational behavior are indisputably recognized both, in the disciplines of Business Administration and Management as well as in Public Administration and Public Affairs. Having the organization, originally, as the main unit of analysis, the field evolution was opened in PA to confront systemic complexity through inter-organizational, inter-sectorial and intergovernmental approaches. The 60s and 70s presented relevant concerns with the Comparative Administration movement, bringing about an international perspective to the field. Even though, the focus on national public administrations' apparatus was by and large prevalent in PA theory building.

The advances regarding the globalization process have brought to light a number of issues and challenges for the entire international system as a whole, and separately for the countries that compose it, regardless of their development level and degree of international insertion. The increasing international commitments covering essential topics such as economic development, public health, defense and security, environment preservation, poverty eradication, migratory movements, among others, is a direct expression of this reality that finds in the consolidation of multilateral governance architectures the ideal place to promote shared public policies, international mediation and global conflicts resolutions.

The attendance of international commitments expresses more than just the initiatives and development of national foreign policies. Intrinsically assumes national internal political actions constructed and articulated in favor of achieving the internationally agreed targets. This reality can be demonstrated, for example, in the structure of commitments as the Millennium Development Goals, environmental preservation protocols, treaties on strategic arms reductions and control of severe diseases, cases in which the international success necessarily depends of the ability of national governments at all levels to accomplish internal targets, supported by funding, technical assistance and mediation from multilateral organizations.

In this sense, it is evident a close convergence between actions provided by national public administrations with the international dimensions of global governance systemically conducted by multilateral organizations. Based in this convergence, the Working Group IX is structured in order to promote theoretical studies and analysis addressing internationally shared public policies formulation and implementation in attendance of global targets and international commitments oriented to the public interest. The objective is to advance academic discussions regarding a perspective still little explored scientifically but crucial for global governance: the roundabouts and crossroads of Public Policy, Public Administration and International Relations conceptual frameworks and integrative theorization in the context of globalization.

In this respect, the theme of this year's conference, "alternative service delivery arrangements" is particularly relevant for WG IX. Governments all around the world adopt, learn and inspire from each other in designing and delivering public services. The global quest for developing better public service delivery mechanisms brings some research questions; What are the constraints and opportunities of adopting service delivery mechanisms from other countries? Which national factors may lead to successful delivery of public services that are adopted from other countries? Are there any global or regional efforts to converge public service delivery mechanisms? Which characteristics of national public service design and implementation facilitate their globalization? Papers which address to these or similar questions dealing with international or comparative aspects of public service delivery mechanisms are most welcome.

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Working Group X: ALTERNATIVE SERVICE DELIVERY ARRANGEMENTS

Chair:

 Vincent Potier (Centre National de la Fonction Publique Territoriale, France) Email: Vincent.POTIER@cnfpt.fr

The working group on the theme of the conference 2015, «alternative service delivery arrangements», aims to analyse:

- the characteristics and the merits of alternative service delivery arrangements;
- the prerogatives and duties of the public sector with regard to service delivery in order to guarantee the public interest;
- the possibility of a new model for developing, developmental and developed countries to establish and improve on the quality of service delivery arrangements.

Authors are kindly asked to present their papers in the form of theoretical reflections, case studies or comparative analyses.

Papers should aim to emphasise the following issues:

- What do we know about the merits of alternative service delivery arrangements in different circumstances and under varying contexts?
- Do these merits depend on variations of the contexts and if so, what is it that is so important in that context?
- Do the merits depend on the specifics of the policy area in which the services are delivered, or on the specific phase in the policy process one is investigating? Or, are still other factors determinative for the merits of distinct alternative service delivery arrangements, and if so, can they be specified?
- What do the new models imply for the significance and meaning of the public sector?

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IMPORTANT – PLEASE READ CAREFULLY! SUBMISSION GUIDELINES AND REVIEW PROCEDURE:

ABSTRACT SUBMISSION

While more than one abstract can be submitted, only one can be accepted for presentation. An abstract of no more than 1000 words, in English or French, must be submitted by the deadline of **15th January 2015**.

Abstracts should be uploaded electronically through **www.iasia-conference2015.org** How to upload your contribution? See User Guide

If you need any help, please contact b.dobra@iias-iisa.org

SELECTION OF ABSTRACTS

The working groups proceed with the selection of abstracts based on the congruence of the proposal with the call for papers. If needed they suggest, to the authors ways of improving the papers.

INFORMATION ABOUT THE ACCEPTANCE STATUS

The authors are informed about the acceptance status of their proposal **by 31 January 2015.** The authors whose contribution has been accepted will be invited to submit their full paper according to the **following guidelines**

SUBMISSION OF FINAL PAPERS

Final papers should be uploaded electronically **www.iasia-conference2015.org** by the deadline of 15 April 2015.

How to upload your final paper? See User Guide

If you need any help, please contact **b.dobra@iias-iisa.org**

ORGANISATION OF THE WORKING GROUPS' SESSIONS

The final programme of the working groups' sessions will be available on the Conference' website **www.iasia-conference2015.org** by the end of May 2015.

IMPORTANT:

- All papers which were not submitted in full format prior the deadline; all papers of unregistered authors and papers of authors who have not paid the registration fees (prior to the event unless specific notification) will be withdrawn from the programme and the authors will not be allowed to present their papers at the event.
- Copies of papers will not be provided by the Organizers during the Event. Authors of papers are welcome to bring copies for distribution.

DURING THE CONGRESS: PRESENTATION AND PARTICIPATION

The authors will be asked to participate **in all the sessions of the working** group in which their contribution has been accepted to react to each other's viewpoint.

A **certificate of participation**, will be delivered namely including paper information, after the closing of the event.

If you need any further information, please contact Mr Bardhyl Dobra, IASIA Executive Secretary (b.dobra@iias-iisa.org).

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Potential presenters should keep in mind that "best papers" selected in the IASIA Working Groups may be considered for publication in the International Review of Administrative Sciences and for nomination for the Pierre De Celles Award.

IRAS - International Review of Administrative Sciences

IRAS is an international peer-reviewed journal devoted to academic and professional public administration. Founded in 1927 it is the oldest scholarly public administration journal specifically focused on comparative and international topics. IRAS seeks to shape the future agenda of public administration around the world by encouraging reflection on international comparisons, new techniques and approaches, the dialogue between academics and practitioners, and debates about the future of the field itself.

Further information about the IRAS is available at

http://www.iias-iisa.org/publications/iras-international-review-of-administrative-sciences/

Pierre de Celles Award

Each year, the Working Groups' Chairs and Project Directors forward the best papers presented in their respective Working Groups to a selection committee consisting of members of the IASIA Board of Management. The papers are then reviewed in line with the following criteria:

- The relevance of the paper for the practice of Public Administration research and training
- The relevance of the paper for the discipline of Public Administration
 - The relevance of the paper for the practice of public administration
- · Is a multi-disciplinary approach visible in the paper?
- Does the paper contain a novel viewpoint?
- The soundness and consistency of the argumentation
- The originality of the research question/problem formulation
- The quality of the theoretical grounding
- The reliability and validity of the research
- The significance of the findings
- · Is the research question/problem answered at the end of the paper?
- The quality of writing
- The readability and lay out

Further information about the Pierre de Celles Award is available at http://www.iias-iisa.org/iasia/awards/pierre-de-celles-award/

Useful information:

- ➡ Abstract for proposals : max 1000 words
- ► Abstract for the final paper: 100-150 words
- ➡ Final paper (including the bibliography): max 6000 words

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