Capacity Development Webinar

Effective Governance for Transformational Change:

Strengthening capacities, mindsets, and competencies of public institutions to build the next generation of public servants in Latin America & the Caribbean

Launch of the

Curriculum on Governance for the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in Latin America and the Caribbean

Organized by the
United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UN DESA)
Division for Public Institutions and Digital Government (DPIDG)
and
United Nations Economic Commission for Latin America & the Caribbean (ECLAC/ILPES)

12 October 2022
10:00 am – 12:30 pm New York
09:00 am – 11:30 Mexico
09:00 am – 11:30 am Bogota
11:00 am – 13:30 Buenos Aires
09:00 am – 11:30 am Kingston
11:00 am – 13:30 Santiago

Via Zoom (https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_NTsFvQTTSJOLJ1SXhSK3Cg)

The United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UN DESA), through its Division for Public Institutions and Digital Government (DPIDG), in collaboration with the United Nations Economic Commission for Latin American and the Caribbean (ECLAC), is organizing a regional capacity development webinar to launch the Curriculum on Governance for the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) (the "Curriculum") in the Latin American and Caribbean region. The Offices of UN Resident Coordinators in the region will be invited to provide advice in contextualizing the training material to the national level context.

The Curriculum, developed by UN DESA, will be launched through regional events in cooperation with the regional commissions, the UN Resident Coordinator system, and relevant partners.

Objectives

The Webinar aims to:

- Enhance a common understanding of the capacity gaps and opportunities in governance and public administration in the Latin American and Caribbean region;
- Raise awareness of the 11 Principles of Effective Governance for Sustainable Development, the Curriculum and the Competency Framework for the SDGs developed by UN DESA;
- Discuss the importance of resilient institutions for the post pandemic recovery;
- Share experiences from the piloting of the Curriculum; and
- Discuss with Webinar participants how to mainstream the Curriculum and the Competency Framework in the curricula of their national training offerings.

Thematic Focus

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development recognizes the need to build peaceful, just and inclusive societies that provide equal access to justice and that are based on respect for human rights, effective rule of law and good governance at all levels and transparent, effective and accountable institutions, in line with Goal 16. Indeed, institutions play a critical role in the achievement of all the SDGs and targets. However, the COVID-19 pandemic has strongly disrupted the implementation of the SDGs and the regular functioning of (public) institutions and affected key government functions and processes, undermining the effectiveness of government action.

The pandemic has exacerbated institutional vulnerabilities and public sector reforms continue to be a major and vexing challenge in many countries. To recover after the pandemic, react quickly to multiple challenges and implement the SDGs, a transformative public service that promotes experimental problem solving and inclusiveness, develops policies that are coherent and evidence based, and engages own staff, the private sector, academia, and citizens - is critical. The 11 Principles of Effective Governance for Sustainable Development, developed by the UN Committee of Experts on Public Administration (CEPA) and endorsed in 2018 by the Economic and Social Council, provide practical, expert guidance to interested countries in a broad range of governance challenges associated with implementation of the 2030 Agenda.

The Curriculum, which is a holistic and integrated framework, translates the 11 Principles of Effective Governance into practice through capacity development training material on governance and public institutions. It aims to promote critical understanding of sustainable development issues, enhance

governance capacity, and strengthen public servants' awareness of their active role in contributing to the achievement of the SDGs. The Curriculum is a comprehensive set of Training of Trainers Capacity Development Toolkits, which contain ready-to-use and customizable training material on key governance dimensions needed to advance the implementation of the SDGs.

The Curriculum provides methodologies and approaches to advance knowledge and assist governments in developing capacities at the individual, organizational, and institutional/societal levels to drive the transformational change to implement the 2030 Agenda. The Training of Trainers Capacity Development Toolkits are structured around modules that include readings, self-assessment situation analysis, application of theories to concrete issues and challenges, priority setting exercises, through case studies, action planning, and other activities that can assist countries in advancing governance transformation for sustainable development. The Curriculum's Toolkits are made available at no cost on the UNPAN website at unpan.un.org. They are mainly intended for schools of public administration and institutes of public management given their strategic role in training public servants and improving the quality and effectiveness of public policy and service delivery design, implementation, and evaluation through in-service training and education of all those engaged in public service.

Format

The Webinar will run for two hours and thirty minutes. It will be conducted in Spanish. It will include an overview presentation of the Curriculum and a brief presentation of each Curriculum's Toolkit. The presentations will be followed by a panel discussion and an open discussion/Q&A. The Webinar will be conducted using video conferencing tools such as Zoom.

The recordings and the presentations will be posted on the website after the conclusion of the Webinar. The follow-up actions, including key recommendations and knowledge products, will be disseminated through the UN DESA and UN ECLAC websites.

Target Audience

The target audience of the Webinar includes schools of public administration and institutes of public management in the Latin American and Caribbean region, members of the United Nations Public Administration Network (UNPAN) and the UN Resident Coordinator Offices in the Latin America and Caribbean region. The Webinar is also open to the public upon registration.

Expected Results

The Webinar will result in:

- Enhanced awareness of the 11 Principles of Effective Governance for Sustainable Development.
- Increased understanding of the governance capacity gaps and opportunities in the region.
- Knowledge sharing on training offerings of schools of public administration for the implementation of the SDGs in the region.
- Enhanced awareness of the Curriculum's methodologies and approaches to strengthen effective governance and public institutions in the Latin American and Caribbean region.
- Identified possible areas for further collaboration and training of trainers.

Upon completion of the Webinar, a survey will be circulated to gage the capacity development interest of participating schools of public administration to adapt and implement the Curriculum to their national context. The Webinar will also result in the delivery of national training workshops in relevant governance issues, upon governments' request. Follow-up activities can also include peer to peer learning workshops on developing capacities to promote effective governance for the SDGs, mainstream the Curriculum and the Competency Framework for the SDGs in the curricula of the schools of public administration.

Key Questions for the Open Discussion

1. What are the major capacity gaps in public administration in your country and how are the Curriculum's thematic areas relevant to bridging those gaps?
2. What training programmes does your institution offer on issues related to governance for the SDGs? Does your government have a competency framework for the SDGs in place and if yes, what are the key competencies?
3. How relevant is the Curriculum on Governance for the SDGs to your country's needs?
4. Which thematic areas are you most interested in, or would you prefer mainstreaming the training material as a whole?
5. What other thematic areas do you think are relevant to accelerating the implementation of the SDGs, which could be added to the Curriculum?
6. What could be the approaches and strategies for collaboration to mainstream the Curriculum's training material on the SDGs in your national curricula?