



UNPAN Partners' Newsletter October - November - December 2020

Capacity Development Webinar on “Accelerating Digital Transformation for Sustainable and Resilient Recovery from COVID-19”



A webinar on “Accelerating Digital Transformation for Sustainable and Resilient Recovery from Covid-19” was held on 13 October 2020. It provided an interactive platform for sharing different country experiences about effective digital government strategies for accelerating digital transformation for a sustainable and resilient recovery from COVID-19. Lessons learnt were shared from China, Estonia, Republic of Korea, the United Kingdom, Singapore, and other countries. For more information, click [here](#)

Webinar on Strengthening the Role of Public Institutions in Achieving Poverty Eradication and Sustainable Development



This Capacity Development Webinar, held on 16 October 2020, aimed to explore country experiences in achieving poverty reduction and eradication through strengthened public institutions, identify lessons learned and successful outcomes, and share recommendations on the way forward. The participants discussed challenges and shared lessons learned at the country level on how to revisit the role of public institutions in poverty eradication and sustainable development in the context of COVID-19 and what steps should be taken to strengthen and reinvigorate public

institutions to confront the crisis and to reduce and eradicate poverty. The webinar built upon the [11 Principles of Effective Governance for Sustainable Development](#) endorsed by ECOSOC, that seek to help build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels, with a view to achieving the shared vision for the people and the planet embodied in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. The webinar was organized by UN DESA/DPIDG in collaboration with China National Academy of Governance (CNAG). For more information, click [here](#).

Online Training Workshop on “Government Innovation for Social Inclusion of Vulnerable Groups”



This Online Training Workshop was held on 3 & 5 November 2020. It aimed to develop capacities of government officials and other stakeholders responsible for social inclusion of vulnerable groups by introducing approaches, strategies, and tools for advancing governance innovation for social inclusion. It featured lectures and group discussions and introduced innovative practices to help participants apply knowledge and creative solutions in practice. The workshop was organized by UN DESA/DPIDG, through its Project Office on Governance ([UNPOG](#)), and the Malaysia Digital Economy Corporation (MDEC) with the support of UNCDF Malaysia. For more information, click [here](#).

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[Fifteenth Annual Meeting of the Internet Governance Forum \(IGF\)](#)



The Fifteenth Annual Meeting of the Internet Governance Forum (IGF) was hosted online by the United Nations under the overarching theme Internet for human resilience and solidarity.

The programme was developed around the four main thematic tracks: [\(1\) Data](#); [\(2\) Environment](#); [\(3\) Inclusion](#); [\(4\) Trust](#). The theme of "digital cooperation" and the UN Secretary-General's Roadmap for digital cooperation featured prominently.

The meeting was held from 9 to 17 November 2020. During this 7-day phase, workshops, main sessions, [the high-level leader's track](#), parliamentary roundtable and thematic concluding sessions were hosted.

The IGF 2020 pre-events, newcomers sessions, thematic introductory sessions, as well as the Open Forums, [NRI](#)s and [DC](#) sessions were hosted from 02 to 06 November during the first meeting's phase. For more information, click [here](#).

[Regional Symposium on "Effective, Inclusive and Accountable Public Institutions and Digital Government Transformation for Resilient Recovery and the Implementation of the SDG"](#)

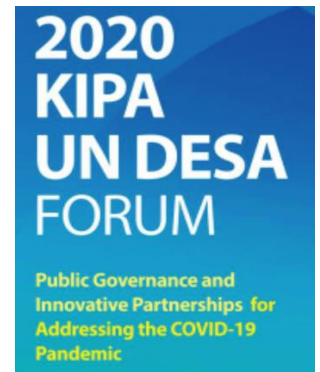


This virtual symposium, held from 24 to 26 November and from 23 to 25 November 2020, aimed to equip public institutions from Asia and the Pacific region with the capacities necessary for sustainable and resilient recovery while focusing on implementing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. The symposium was organized by UN DESA/DPIDG through its Project Office on Governance (UNPOG) and the Ministry of the Interior and Safety, Govern-

ment of the Republic of Korea. For more information, click [here](#).

[Second UNDESA-KIPA Forum on "Public Governance and Innovative Partnership for Addressing the Covid-19 Pandemic"](#)

To facilitate continued discussion on "Public Governance and Innovative Partnerships for Addressing the COVID-19 Pandemic", the On-line Discussion Board, held on 08 December 2020 was created to address unanswered questions, promote dialogue, and exchange ideas. For more information, click [here](#).



[Capacity Development Webinar on "Developing Institutional Capacities in Digital Transformation for a More Inclusive and Equitable Recover"](#)



This virtual capacity development webinar, held on 14-15 December 2020, aimed to strengthen public institutional capacities in public policymaking for digital transformation in support of 2030 Agenda for sustainable development. It aimed to strengthen the digital capacity of countries, especially the developing countries, and in particular the capacity of the LDCs, SIDS, LLDCs, and countries with transition economics, to participate in, and benefit from, the growing opportunities of digitalization while mitigating the risks.

The webinar brought together a network of relevant government officials (CIOs or equivalents), and experts and decision-makers from private sector, civil society, academia in relevant digital fields, including digital government, digital economy, cybersecurity, science, and technology, and innovation (STI).

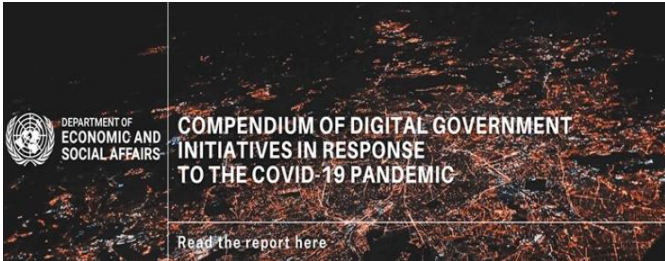
Participants were invited to share lessons learned, including both success and failure, in address emerging requirements and challenges for policy and decision-making in regard to digital transformation and to reflect on partnerships and digital governance capacity to accelerate recovery and build a

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more resilient infrastructure and inclusive service delivery. How to improve and strengthen the 2022 United Nations E-Government Survey was also discussed during the webinar. For more information, click [here](#).

[Compendium of Digital Government Initiatives in response to the COVID-19 Pandemic 2020](#)



This compendium, prepared by UN DESA/DPIDG aims to capture emerging trends in digital responses of UN Member States against the COVID-19 pandemic, and provide a preliminary analysis of their main features. These cases are shared for exchange of information so that Member States can learn from each other and possibly create new partnerships. The initiatives listed in this compendium were submitted by Member States in response to a call for inputs launched by UN DESA/DPIDG in April/May 2020. The compendium lists selected initiatives according to major categories of action areas of : 1. Information sharing, 2. E-participation, 3. E-health, 4. E-business, 5. Contact tracing, 6. Social distancing and virus tracking, 7. Working and learning from home 8. Digital policy 9. Partnerships. Access the Compendium [here](#).

[Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs Mr. Liu Zhenmin launches 2021 United Nations Public Service Awards](#)



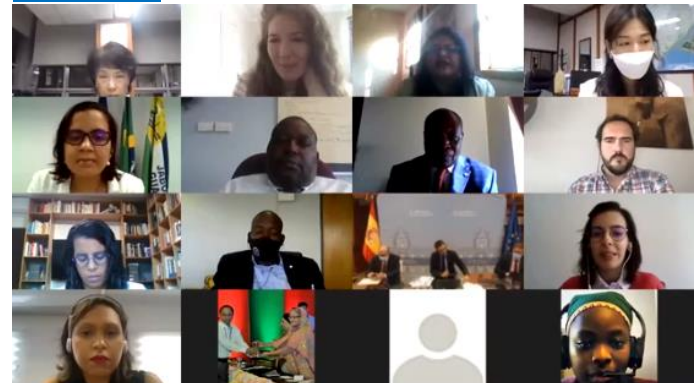
Mr. Liu Zhenmin, Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs launched the 2021 United Nations Public Service Awards. The Awards, supported by UN DESA in collaboration with the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the

Empowerment of Women (UN Women), are an international recognition of excellence in public service.

The Awards recognize the innovation, creative achievements and contributions of public sector institutions leading to more effective and responsive public administration worldwide. In launching the Awards, Mr. Liu stressed the importance of effective public service delivery, and transparent, accountable and inclusive institutions in the Implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. He noted in particular the need for enhancing efforts over the coming ‘Decade of Action’ leading up to 2030.

For the 2021 Awards nominations, public sector institutions were be considered under four categories: 1: Fostering innovation to deliver inclusive and equitable services for all, including through digital transformation; 2: Enhancing the effectiveness of public institutions to reach the SDGs; 3: Promoting gender-responsive public services to achieve the crisis. For more information, click [here](#).

[Capacity Development Event on the United Nations Public Service Awards - “Enhancing Public Service Delivery in the Decade of Action to meet the Sustainable Development Goals”](#)



UN DESA, in collaboration with UN Women, hosted an online capacity development event on the UN Public Service Awards (UNPSA) on 6 October.

The event showcased the work of the 2020 UNPSA winners (see press release on 2020 winners [here](#)) and provided information on the 2021 UNPSA. More information is available [here](#).

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NIA Online Course on “Digital Government Policy and Best Practices of Korea”



This course, held on 14 October, aimed to provide participants an opportunity to gain better understanding and enhance capacity to plan and implement a digital government strategy through learning about the Korea’s lessons learned, success factors and best practices of the Korean digital Government. More information is available [here](#)

“Technological and Science-based Solutions to the COVID-19 Challenge”



Part of the UN DESA Global Policy Dialogue Series

UN DESA held a conversation on 29 October with global leaders in science and technology that assessed the science-based policies and innovations that have developed during the pandemic, identifying good practices as well as areas where work is still needed. The event featured a broad panel discussion with experts, followed by regional breakout sessions led by UN DESA (English) and the UN Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (Arabic). The event discussed these questions, among others:

- What are concrete examples of innovations that have helped people or institutions deal with the effects of COVID-19?
- How can the international community help to ensure that research and innovations related to COVID-19 are accessible to all?
- What needs to be done to better engage society, counter misinformation and overcome apathy towards science in policy-making?

For more information, click [here](#)

Forum on Sustainable Smart Cities



On October 14, Forum on Sustainable Smart Cities, jointly organized by Shanghai Academy of Social Sciences and Fudan University, with the support of the United Nations Economic and Social Council, was successfully held. The Forum released 2020 Global Smart City Report and the Chinese translation of the World Public Sector Report 2019. More information is available [here](#).

ICAP Events

XLVI ICAP graduation ceremony



Date: October 30, 2020. 4:00 pm (UTC -6)
First virtual graduation ceremony was held on 30 October. There was participation of students from postgraduate programs in the Central American region, who received their certificates and were be sworn in. More information is available [here](#)

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Virtual workshop Prospective and Innovation in Public Management

ICAP Taller virtual Prospectiva e innovación en la gestión territorial. Modalidad 100% en línea, Inversión total \$50, Duración total 6 horas. Facilitadores: Alain Jordá, Alfredo Acosta Fonseca. Sesiones: 4. Fecha límite de matrícula: 13 de noviembre.

This workshop was held on 13 November. More information is available here.

The Eastern Regional Organization for Public Administration (EROPA) Bulletin Volume 41



The Eastern Regional Organization for Public Administration (EROPA) released its Bulletin Volume 41 on 20 October.

The issue highlighted the following topics:

- Updating of the 2021 conference theme to "Public Governance for Inclusive Growth: Accountability, Engagement, and Digital Transformation in a Post-COVID-19 Pandemic Era"
EROPA member institutions' shift to the online medium of operations for classes, training, meetings, and others;
Call for papers for the Asian Review of Public Administration special issue on COVID-19; and
The United Nations' 75th-anniversary celebration

The EROPA Bulletin is the quarterly newsletter of the organization. Its issues can be accessed through eropa.co/eropa-bulletin.html.



The 29th NISPAcee Annual Conference 2021



The Network of Institutes and Schools of Public Administration in Central and Eastern Europe (NISPAcee) and the Faculty of Public Administration, University of Ljubljana held the 29th NISPAcee Annual Conference "Citizens' Engagement and Empowerment - the Era of Collaborative Innovation in Governance" on May 20 - 22 in Ljubljana, Slovenia.

The Annual Conference 2021 attracted papers that will invigorate discussion on the possible methods of citizens' empowerment in the Central and Eastern European (CEE) region, in connection to its developments/traditions, governance practices, regulatory framework, financial capacity, public policy, digitalisation processes, human resource management and public administration itself. This topic was elaborated upon by experts, researchers and scholars from different disciplines, not only during the main session, but also in working groups and panel sessions. Civic participation and empowerment refer to a condition in which every citizen has the means to actively engage. This set also includes political processes, but the theme of the conference is designed much more broadly, so that civic participation and empowerment can be viewed in terms of all aspects, which consequently affect their everyday quality of life. For more information, click on the following link : https://www.nispa.org/conference2021

ReSPA's 10th Anniversary



Over the last ten years, ReSPA has become the Public Administration Reform Partner proven across the Western Balkan governments. Through more than 400 networking and capacity development activities that have conducted, more than 8,000 civil servants in the Western Balkans administrations have obtained better knowledge and skill-set within Public Administration Reform, Public Finance Management, European Integration and Human Resource

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development Management. Reflecting the needs of the Western Balkans governments, citizens and businesses, [ReSPA conducted more than 30 policy papers](#) with more than 150 regional and country-specific policy recommendations in the area of PAR and EUI. More information: <https://respaweb.eu/0/news/378/respaweb-is-celebrating-10th-anniversary>

[ReSPA's Redesigned Website](#)

The website www.respaweb.eu has been modernized, and is now well-structured, mobile responsive and user-friendly.

[ReSPA Annual Report 2020](#)

This report presents ReSPA's overall activities performed from October 2019 until 15 October 2020.

Download publication from [the link](#).



[Seasonal School on EU Accession Negotiation](#)



The five-day online School held in October, in cooperation with EIPA, served as a forum for improving the knowledge and capacities of civil servants across the Western Balkans on the process, as well as for transferring of experience from civil servants already engaged in the negotiations to those that expect to start the negotiations very soon. This shift of methodology from theory-oriented to practice-oriented, made the sessions of the Seasonal School vibrant and lively, with plenty of space for discussion, questions and remarks. More information is available [here](#).

[Western Balkans Public Administration Award Ceremony](#)



At the Ceremony ReSPA and OECD/SIGMA announced the winners of the first Western Balkans Public Administration Awards contest. The jury decided to award eleven champions divided into four categories: Digital Government, eEconomy, eLearning, eHealth and Social Innovation. ReSPA will reward the champions with 35 individual accredited training in Agile management. More information is available [here](#).

[The 11th ReSPA Governing Board meeting at the Ministerial level](#)



The Meeting gathered ministers from ReSPA members, highly-ranked European Commission officials and senior professionals from the Western Balkans countries. The main emphasis of the meeting reflects the recognition of the job done by ReSPA in these challenging times, but also during its ten years of existence. Video statement of Ms Ratka Sekulović, ReSPA Director, visit [here](#). More information is available [here](#).

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[Western Balkans Public Administration Awards 2020 champions promoted the innovative digital approaches at the "Government After Shock" global event](#)

Jointly with **OECD/SIGMA**, ReSPA hosted the "Think fast...act faster" Panel as a part of the Government After Shock online event coordinated by the OECD's Observatory of Public Sector Innovation (OPSI).

To contact the UNPAN team, click on the following icons :




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