Public Institutions and Digital Government
Department of Economic and Social Affairs

July-August-September 2019

The UNPAN Partners Newsletter

UN DESA Workshop on Transformational Leadership during the 2019 IASIA Conference (22-26 July 2019, Lisbon, Portugal)

UN DESA organized a two-day workshop and plenary session on Transformational Leadership during the 2019 IASIA Conference on: "Public Administration's Missions and Goals for the Achievement of the SDGs: Developing Transformational Leadership Competences and Changing Mindsets in Public Sector Institutions to Implement the 2030 Agenda and achieve the SDGs", which was held from 22 to 26 July 2019 in Lisbon, Portugal. The workshop highlighted transformational leadership to achieve desirable goals for the present and the long -term strategies. As such, transformational leadership is about finding opportunity and partners to help drive the change that is for the betterment of the society as a whole. A growing need for transformational leadership and changes in mindset also comes during a growing digital divide that is changing the tools governments are working with, which also has implications in how quickly public service is delivered and government policies are enacted. This creates the risk of a widening gap between countries, even within regions, that only a new way of thinking can help solve.

Policy Impact from the Asia-Pacific Task Force of the Global Initiative of Schools of Public Administration on Implementing the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)— "Common Competency Framework for Implementing the SDGs" (5 September 2019)

In October 2018, UN DESA convened a training workshop with the Asia-Pacific Task Force of the Global Initiative of Schools of Public Administration on "Mobilizing and Equipping Public Servants to Implement the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and Achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)" in Incheon, Republic of Korea. One of the outcomes of the training workshop was the development of a competency framework for the SDGs which is essential for providing public servants with new skills, knowledge, abilities and motivation that are necessary to implement the 2030 Agenda. The draft version of the Common Competency Framework for Implementing the SDGs was circulated to the Asia-Pacific Task Force of the Global Initiative of Schools of Public Administration on Implementing the Sustainable Development Goals on 21 June 2019. As a result of UN DESA's support to the region, Samoa's Public Service Commission has approved the Public Administration Sector Coordination Unit for the financial year 2019-2020 focusing on

contextualizing the Common Competency Framework for Implementing the SDGs as developed by the Asia-Pacific Task Force. Once contextualized, the Competency Framework will be implemented across Samoa's public service.

Launch of 2020 United Nations Public Service Awards (18 September 2019)

The United Nations Public Service Awards (UNPSA) promote and reward innovation and excellence in public services in support of the realization of the Sustainable Development Goals and the principle of leaving no one behind. The programme is focused on recognizing transformative initiatives that promote creativity and innovation in public service delivery and the work of public sector institutions to enhance effectiveness, transparency and inclusiveness to leave no one behind.

The 2020 UNPSA programme is now open for submissions under the following five categories: (1) Delivering inclusive and equitable services for all; (2) Promoting integrated mechanisms for sustainable development; (3) Developing transparent and accountable public institutions; (4) Promoting digital transformation in the public sector; and (5) Promoting gender responsive public services to achieve the SDGs. The deadline for submitting nominations is 27 November 2019. For more information about the awards and submission guidelines, please visit: https://publicadministration.un.org/unpsa/en/

Launch of #TAG on the Move: Dialogue on Migration by EROPA and UP CIFAL

EROPA was able to launch the first set of talks of the #TAG Dialogue Series on 15 August 2019, 2:00 to 5:00 PM, at the Case Room, University of the Philippines (UP) National College of Public Administration and Governance (UP NCPAG). It was done with the help of the UP Centre International de Formation des Autorités et Leaders Philippines. Migration was the theme that both organizations decided on because of the fact that it is a defining feature of today's globalized world. It is a matter which affects the multifaceted dimensions of development at all levels. As there are still many misconceptions on the said phenomenon, it is in this view that both organizations endeavor to promote Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 10.7, "facilitate orderly, safe, and responsible migration and mobility of people, including through implementation of planned and well-managed migration policies", and the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration (GCM) Objective 17 which includes "eliminat[ing] all forms of discrimination and promote evidence-based public discourse to shape perceptions of migration".

On the other hand, the event's title - T-A-G - stands for Thinking about Governance. The motto/tagline of the brand is Challenging Governance Ideals and Realities. Using the "#" (hashtag or ortotorphe) to identify with a relevant and ubiquitous topic - such as Public Administration and Governance (PA & G) - was a conscious decision. The # has a symbolic relevance, particularly in social media sites (i.e. Facebook, Twitter, etc.). In it, it provides "a way for the public to express their sentiment/s" - sometimes taking part in online discussions that end up trending. EROPA

intends for the talks to contribute to an online library of videos of PA & G that will be maintained and curated by the organization.

The filmed video of this first set of talks will be launched on the EROPA website after the first run of the videos in the 2019 EROPA Conference, 22-27 September 2019, held at the UP NCPAG.

the 2019 EROPA Conference

The 27th General Assembly and 65th Executive Council Meeting and Conference of EROPA took place on 22-27 September 2019. The official venue of the conference proper is the University of the Philippines' National College of Public Administration and Governance. The theme for this year's conference is "The Future of Public Administration: Rethinking Resilience, Equity, and Sustainability in the Region and Beyond". Over 200 participants – both local and foreign – participants attended and the event welcomed high-profile Public Administration scholars (e.g. Dr. Jomo Kwame Sundaram, Dr. Pan Suk Kim, Dr. Michael Mah Hui Lim, etc.) to speak at plenary sessions.

Washington DC shares best practices at WeGO smart city roundtable

The chief technology and deputy chief resilience officers of Washington DC took part in a smart city roundtable organized by WeGO, to share their city's initiatives with representatives of close to 30 local governments, corporations, and institutions from around the world. Speaking alongside a mayor and other officials from Cauayan City (Philippines), West Java Province (Indonesia), and Taipei (Taiwan), CTO Lindsey Parker and Deputy CRO Harrison Newton presented on a series of challenges and achievements relevant to the roundtable's theme of urban resilience and public safety. Heads of institutions including the FIWARE Foundation and Leading Cities, as well as representatives from the World Bank and UN-Habitat, were also present to enrich the discussion from an international perspective.

The WeGO-DC Smart City Roundtable was organized by WeGO on July 10, ahead of the two-day Global City Teams Challenge (GCTC) Expo hosted by the National Information of Standard and Technology (NIST) in Washington DC. GCTC is a platform under the initiative of the US federal government that promotes smart city development by enabling local governments and other stakeholders to work together on targeted projects under the scope of "action clusters."

More info: http://we-gov.org/wego-news/?uid=776&mod=document&pageid=1

Read the full post-roundtable report directly : http://we-gov.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/09/Post-Roundtable-Report_Final.pdf

Upcoming Events

The 28th NISPAcee Annual Conference (May 14 - 16, 2020 - Split, Croatia)

Based on the importance that evidence-based policy making has on dealing with the complexity and interdependence of current societal problems, the main theme of NISPAcee's annual conference will be: "Governance and citizens' rights in the era of Europeanization, globalization and digitalization". It will discuss the specific processes and actors that impact, surround, and affect these problems. The focus is on the one hand, on the governance structures and processes, old and new, which are the instruments for dealing with these processes. On the other, the conference will explore in what way citizens, as individuals or as distinctive groups, who are affected by these processes, also face these changes or take part within the governance structures in their attempt to adapt to the new settings and to protect their interests and rights.

The online application module for applications with paper proposals will be open by the end of September 2019.

More info: www.nispa.org/conference2020

Smart City & e-Government Training Program in Chengdu, China (21-26 October 2019)

In an effort to advance smart city capacity around the world, WeGO is inviting public officials from its member local governments to a six-day Smart City & e-Government Training Program that consists of lectures and technical/cultural programs from October 21-26, 2019 at its East Asia Regional Office in Chengdu, China.
The program will consist of lectures, as well as technical and cultural tours with the purpose of strengthening administrative efficiency, bridging the digital divide, and promoting cooperation and solidarity among city and other local governments around the world.

More info: http://we-gov.org/e-government-training-program/