



**PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION
AND DEVELOPMENT**



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Call for Papers for Rio+20 Special Issue

Symposium/Special Issue on “Institutional Frameworks for Sustainable Development and Green Economy in the Context of Sustainable Development and Poverty Eradication”

Special Editors:

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The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the United Nations University Institute of Advanced Studies (UNU-IAS) are jointly organizing a special issue of the journal *Public Administration and Development* (PAD, Wiley-Blackwell) on “institutional framework for sustainable development and green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication”, the two main themes of the Rio+20 Conference.

* Deadline for 500 word abstract submissions: October 31, 2011

* Deadline for full paper submissions: January 31, 2012

Submissions by email to PAD_Editor@yahoo.com
(write “SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT” as the subject of the message)

Rationale

The term “Sustainable Development” became popular in the 1990s particularly after the release of the Brundtland Report and the Rio-92 (UNCED) Conference. The term definitively broke the stalemate between environmental protection, economic development and social inclusiveness (called the three pillars of sustainable development), offering the possibility that all three could come together without a trade-off, at least in theory. Nevertheless, this has not always held true in practice. Even though environmental awareness has increased and there are many good examples to illustrate

sustainable development around the world, the world has become dangerously more unsustainable in several aspects, such as loss of biodiversity and climate change, which also have affected the most vulnerable populations. Thus, the question many raise is how to achieve environmental sustainability with reasonable economic growth that can lead to poverty alleviation and social inclusiveness at all levels (local, national and global)? The key observation to answer this question is the difficulty of achieving sustainable development due to the lack of institutions capable of translating the concept of sustainable development into practice.

The role of public administrations is particularly relevant to translate global concerns into local action, and local concerns into global action. However, we have to create effective and democratic institutional mechanisms within the state to make sustainable development a reality in practice at the different levels. Many of the organizations and institutions in the public administration still operate in the old paradigm of development or are unable to bring the three pillars of sustainable development together in an effective manner. They have to be changed to create the capacity to effectively move societies and the world on a more sustainable path.

Moreover, institutions at the national and sub-national level need to interact with global institutions to make administration work properly for sustainable development. Resources and knowledge have to be used effectively to address many of the global challenges. Economic institutions also have to be reformed to be greener and more socially inclusive so that they lead to poverty eradication and a more sustainable development. The past 20 years have witnessed a number of institutional and financial innovations at the local, national and global level to mobilize citizens and leverage private finance to supplement the action of public administrations and public funds, such as carbon finance, Payment for Ecosystem Services and green certification. However, we need to understand how they could become mainstream and make radical changes in the way the economy and public organizations works to eradicate poverty and to be environmentally sustainable.

Thus, the challenges and opportunities for creating a greener economy and the institutional framework for sustainable development rest necessarily, or mostly, to how public administrations have been effective to incorporate the challenges of sustainable development into its institutions and create the implementation capacity to translate those concerns into practice.

Coverage

This special issue will discuss topics that shed light on a new set of reforms that are needed to create greener economic growth in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication. We invite experts in academia and practice to submit conceptual and empirical manuscripts to contribute to the discussions permeating Rio+20. These should be linked to the fields of public administration and development and hence be multidisciplinary in nature. Topics that may be covered by the manuscripts include the following (amongst others):

- Administrative reforms that make public organizations more aware and effective to deliver more sustainable outcomes
- Regulatory institutions and organizations that bind the three pillars of sustainable development making the economy greener and more socially inclusive
- Mechanisms that allow public organizations to be more effective to deliver sustainable development in partnership with the private sector and organized civil society
- Innovations in public administration for green inclusive growth
- Administrative leadership in the context of moving public organizations to deliver a more sustainable development

- Institutional understanding of fiscal and finance mechanisms to reverse the perverse incentives that work against sustainable development
- Development management approaches to promote sustainable green aid
- Fiscal and budgetary approaches and reforms (green taxes, etc.) to green the economy and fight poverty alleviation at the same time
- Mechanisms to scale up smaller initiatives to have larger impacts
- Informal-formal institutional links in policy, resource allocation and implementation of initiatives towards a more sustainable economy
- Initiatives to improve the capacity of public administrative agencies and local government to deliver green growth with eradication of poverty
- Democratic approaches and participatory mechanisms to green the economy in a context of poverty eradication
- Development of collaborative/networked approaches involving government and non government stakeholders at different governance levels and cross sectors
- Mechanisms to link science and policy to promote a greener economy in the context of poverty alleviation
- Public-Private mechanisms for green growth with social inclusion
- Innovative financial mechanisms that facilitate green growth and poverty alleviation

Intended Audience

The audience includes typical readers of PAD ranging from academia (students, researchers and professors) to professionals (public managers, consultants, officials in government and international organizations, representatives of non-governmental organizations and the private sector) in the area of management, development and public administration. Because of the nature of the discussions, the issue will be of particular relevance to people interested in the discussions related to Rio+20, including international negotiators, diplomats, environmentalists and scientists, as well as academics and professionals dealing with sustainable development.

Contributions

This special issue welcomes proposals for analytical articles from academia and academically qualified professionals in governments, NGOs and international organizations together with leaders from civil society and businesses. It will balance a mix of papers involving theoretical debates, practice-oriented research and case studies that leads to new conceptual models, innovative thought and analyses and management tools. Contributors should also ensure that they are addressing issues that derive from or can be applied to real-world practice/activity. Articles should be 5,000 to 7,000 words long. The special edition will follow the editorial guidelines of the journal *Public Administration and Development*. Contributors are fully encouraged to visit the journal website for additional information on submission requirements and to have an understanding of the journal scope at:

[http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/journal/10.1002/\(ISSN\)1099-162X](http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/journal/10.1002/(ISSN)1099-162X)

Selection Process

Articles selected for the special edition will undergo a two-stage refereeing process. 1) Interested authors are invited to send an abstract of approximately 500 words by 31 October 2011. The editors will first review the abstracts to analyze their suitability for this special edition. 2) Authors of the selected abstracts will then be asked to submit the full paper by the end of January, 2012, for a

double blind review. *Acceptance of the article will depend on the quality of the full paper, and not only on the acceptance of the abstract.* Authors will be informed of the acceptance of their papers based on the referees' comments and judgments no later than 31 March 2012. The special issue will come out in the first semester of 2012. Articles must be written in English.

Abstracts and papers must be sent to the editors (PAD_Editor@yahoo.com) as email attachments (identifying 'SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT' as the 'subject' of the email). The file must be saved in Microsoft Word format (version Word 2007 or newer). All authors should give their names, affiliations, full postal addresses, telephone numbers, fax numbers and emails.

Submission Timetable and Deadlines

- * Deadline for 500 word abstract submissions: 31 October 2011
- * Notification of the suitability of the abstract: 15 November 2011
- * Deadline for full paper submissions: 31 January 2012
- * Deadline for revised paper submissions: 31 March 2012
- * Notification of acceptance for publication: by 15 April 2012
- * Release date of the Special Issue: May 2012.

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