

JULY 11, 2018, 10 am – 1 pm

UN Headquarters, 405 E 42nd Street (46th St & 1st Ave), New York, NY 10017, Room S2724, 27th floor

HLPF 'SDGs Learning, Training & Practice' Special Side Event:

**Capacity-Building in the context of the 2030 Agenda
The role of Civil Servants in a Multi-Stakeholder Environment**

AIMS of the SESSION

- **share perspectives** and concrete examples from diverse stakeholders with regards to successful interactions between civil servants and other stakeholders related to SDG implementation;
- **identify bottle necks** and hurdles for meaningful collaboration and develop approaches to overcome them;
- **develop specific recommendations** for national administration schools to inform capacity development curricula for civil servants.

AGENDA

- 10:00 Welcome and introduction: aims of session, methods
Dr Simona Costanzo-Sow (UNSSC), Dr Tatjana Reiber (DIE) and Dr Wulf Reiners (DIE)
- 10:15 Introductory note by **Patrick Spearing, Secretary of the Committee of Experts on Public Administratio(CEPA)**. Based on the CEPA paper on [Building the awareness, competencies and skills of civil servants at the national and local levels](#).
- Working with multi-stakeholder processes: Experiences and success stories for SDG implementation
- Input by **Barbara Adams, Global Policy Forum** and **Lolita Jackson, Network Relationships NYC Office of the Mayor**
- 10:45 Interactive Q & A with participants on first findings: Knowledge, skills, and attitude of civil servants to successfully engage in a multi-stakeholder environment
- 11:15 Break
- 11.25 Role & potential of training for public servants
- Input by **Prof. Dr. Harsh Sharma, Administrative Staff College of India (ASCI)**
- Followed by discussion with representatives of other public administration schools
- 11:45 Group work in small teams with representatives of public administration schools on recommendations of the side event's participants to public administration schools, 5 recommendations
- 12:15 Presentation of recommendations and conclusions

PARTICIPATING INSTITUTIONS

German Development Institute / Deutsches Institut für Entwicklungspolitik (DIE) and United Nations System Staff College Knowledge Centre for Sustainable Development (UNSSC) together with Administrative Staff College of India (ASCI), National Institute of Public Administration, Indonesia (NIPA), National Institute of Public Administration, Mexico (INAP), National School of Government, South Africa (NSG), National School of Public Administration, Brazil (ENAP), Party School of Communist Party of China Central Committee (CPC), Shanghai Institutes for International Studies (SIIS), Office of the Presidency of the Republic of Mexico as well as Local Governments for Sustainability (ICLEI).

CONCEPT

The side event, jointly organised by the United Nations Systems Staff College Knowledge Centre for Sustainable Development (UNSSC) and the Managing Global Governance Programme (MGG) of the German Development Institute / Deutsches Institut für Entwicklungspolitik (DIE), brings together six schools of public administration from Brazil, China, India, Indonesia, Mexico and South Africa as well as Local Governments for Sustainability (ICLEI) to discuss capacity-building formats to support national implementation of the 2030 Agenda. The perspectives of the organizing partners will be shared and reflected with representatives from the public sector, civil society, academia and the private sector, who will share insights from their research and practice.

The event starts from the insight that civil servants increasingly need to act as brokers and facilitators for the implementation of the 2030 Agenda in a multi-stakeholder environment. The role of civil servants and the required skills, competencies and mind-sets that contribute to their work as agents of transformation will therefore be at the heart of the debate. In this context special emphasis will be placed on new approaches to facilitate the collaborative partnership of civil servants with diverse stakeholders, which can shift mutual perceptions and increase synergies, as well as innovative methods to transmit the integrated and transformative nature of the Agenda and its Sustainable Development Goals.

In this way, the aims of the side events are twofold:

First, the event serves the purpose to share perspectives and concrete examples from diverse stakeholders with regards to successful interactions between civil servants and other stakeholders related to SDG implementation. At the same time, the event will help identify bottle necks and hurdles for meaningful collaboration and develop approaches to overcome them.

Second, participants will jointly develop specific ideas and recommendations for national administration schools to inform capacity development curricula for civil servants.

By bringing together a network of institutions active in the field of training, research and knowledge management from Germany, the Global South and the United Nations, the design of the side event reflects the need for targeted capacity-building in the context of North-South, South-South and triangular cooperation as specified in SDG 17. The session is also of greatest relevance to the goals under review in 2018 since the role of civil servants as agents of transformation in a multi-stakeholder environment is key to achieving progress on Goal 6 (water and sanitation), Goal 7 (energy), Goal 11 (cities), Goal 12 (consumption and production), as well as Goal 15 (land use and ecosystems).