CALL FOR INTEREST TO SERVE AS CO-CHAIR OF IASIA WORKING GROUPS

The International Association of Schools and Institutes of Administration (IASIA) is an entity of the International Institute of Administrative Science (IIAS), a Network of 127 Members covering 56 Countries. IASIA has a global governance agenda through high-impact events targeting and involving Public Institutions, Public Administration, Public Service, and Academia.

IASIA has ten permanent Working Groups (WGs) that represent the spirit, heart, and soul of IASIA. These WGs constitute the building blocks that set the scene and shape the Annual Conferences held in different parts of the world. WGs are pivotal to ensure that the annual IASIA Conferences are successful in relevance, content, and, more importantly, the number of delegates attending to widen its Network and Community.

IASIA decided to launch a call for interest to mobilize qualified candidates for vacant positions within specific WGs. The vacancies are reflected below:

WG #	Working Group name	Position	Full name	Vacancies
I	Education and Training in Public Administration	Project Director	Blue Wooldridge*	NO
		Co-Chair	Ludmila Gajdosova	NO
		Co-Chair	Hendri Kroukamp	NO
II	Ethics and Culture in the Public Sector	Project Director	Pregala Pillay	NO
		Co-Chair	Najat Zarrouk*	NO
		Co-Chair		YES
III	Public Sector Reform	Project Director	Randhir Auluck	NO
		Co-Chair		YES
		Co-Chair		YES
IV	Subnational Governance and Development	Project Director	Cristina Rodriguez-Acosta	NO
		Co-Chair	Amitava Basu*	NO
		Co-Chair		YES
V	Gender, Diversity and Equity	Project Director	Laila El-Baradei	NO
		Co-Chair		YES
		Co-Chair		YES
VI	Public Sector Governance, Leaderships and Management	Project Director	Juraj Nemec	NO
		Co-Chair	Liezel Lues*	NO
		Co-Chair	Yingchun Sun	NO
VII	Public Policy, Decision-making and Policy Implementation	Project Director	Michiel S de Vries*	NO
		Co-Chair	Christina Andrews	NO
		Co-Chair	Henry Wissink	NO
VIII	Human Resources Management in the Public Sector	Project Director	Liza van Jaarsveldt*	NO
		Co-Chair		YES
		Co-Chair		YES
IX	International Dimensions of the Public Administration	Project Director	Adrian Velazquez Vazquez*	NO
		Co-Chair	Frank Naert	NO
		Co-Chair	Ruben Dario Echeverri	NO
X	Public Administration in Fragile and Conflict-affected States	Project Director	Tamer Qarmout	NO
		Co-Chair		YES
	PhD Seminar	Project Director	Michiel DeVries*	NO
		Co-Chair	Hendri Kroukamp	NO

* Co-chairs with a mark are IASIA Board members.

Role, Responsibility, and Commitments of WG Project Directors and Co-chairs:

- Maintain an excellent knowledge in the academic field of the Working Group;
- Conduct research and publish within the focus area of the Working Group;

Commitments:

- on a regular basis develop and update the objectives and the themes of the WG,
- write the call-for-papers and develop the rationale for the WG during sessions of the annual Conference,
- promote the WG's activities via e-mail and social media, and personal networks,
- mobilize people in the WG network to submit abstracts, papers, and contributions for the WG,
- mobilize new members to join IASIA Network,
- evaluate abstracts and papers for the annual WG Conference sessions,
- plan and arrange presentations for the annual Conference programme,
- attend the annual IASIA Conference,
- chair WG sessions during the annual Conference,
- write and submit feedback reports for the annual Conference,
- present the feedback report at the closing session of the annual Conference,
- suggest and plan publication proposals for Journals and the IASIA book series,
- select and submit the best Conference papers in the WG for consideration for the Best Conference Paper Award.
- write and submit information reports for the IASIA Community,
- contribute to international forums for IASIA, representing the IASIA WG with its expertise, and contribute to any activity organized by IASIA or IIAS and their Partners.

Requirements to apply for vacant IASIA Working Group positions:

- Academic leader/scholarship in the particular field of the Working Group;
- Prior and continuous participation in the specific Working Group, e.g.: presenting of papers, participating in WG sessions and debates;
- Track record for attendance at previous IASIA Conferences;
- Demonstrate commitment to IASIA through inter alia hosting annual or regional Conference meetings, increasing the membership base of IASIA;
- Commitment to submit publications proposals to the IASIA-IIAS publications committee;
- Commitment to attend IASIA Conferences;
- IASIA working group co-chairs and project directors have to be part of an institution that is a member of IASIA or be an individual member of IASIA.

In selecting candidates for vacant positions, IASIA will also take into account the following:

- Gender balance,
- Regions' equilibrium.

Vacancies and Description per Working Group:
The number of available vacancies is closely related to the volume of papers to be evaluated in each edition of our conferences.

Working Group II: Ethics and Culture in the Public Sector
A Co-Chair to support the working group Project Director: Dr. Pregala Pillay, and Co-Chair, Dr. Najat Zarrouk, IASIA President.

Focus of WG II: A culture of public ethics is basic to territorial integrity under current globalization. Coordination of national efforts, quality governance, and consequences of its weakness remain key at all state levels. Such has been at stake in a number of regional integration attempts over the decades. Working Group II Ethics and Culture in the Public Sector provides a forum for debate on sustainable policy management regarding all of the foregoing.

Working Group III. Public Sector Reform
Two Co-Chairs to support the working group Project Director: Dr. Randhir Auluck.

Focus of WG III: Building capacity for sustainable governance demands a modern and well-functioning public sector, aware of the need to balance efficiency, social equity, and sustainability despite the pressures in times of financial and economic crises. In other words, austerity measures and challenges related to efficiency, delivery, rationalization, or modernization might work toward a bigger purpose – sustainable governance.

Such conflictual pressures demand continuous change and adoption of different types of reforms that focus not only on the administrative capacity of the public sector (comprehending methods of management and measures that improve human, financial, or organizational resources) but also on more comprehensive structural transformations (that aim to transform existing power relations between bureaucrats, politicians, and citizens). The Working Group focuses on intraorganizational and inter-organizational aspects of reforms aiming to build sustainable governance, discussing how to build institutional and organizational capacity to ensure social stability, justice, peace, and prosperity.

Working Group IV. Subnational Governance and Development
A Co-Chair to support the working group Project Director: Dr. Cristina Acosta-Rodriguez and Co-chaired by Dr. Amitava Basu.

Focus of WG IV: The importance of local governments as building blocks and foundations for all governance structures cannot be overemphasized. On a global level, local governments are viewed as governmental spheres, either second or third, created to ensure that government is brought closer to the local populace and that local communities are involved in the political processes influencing their daily

existence. Local democracy signifies a governmental system wherein a local electorate, representative of a distinctive locality, are active participants in determining who governs them and, more significantly, in defining the policy output of the local authority. The role and significance of good local governance have been advocated internationally as an important vehicle to achieve stability in governments.

The objective of the Group is to focus on key trends and developments in the local government sphere in both developed and developing countries. However, in 2015, the name and focus of the Working Group were changed to Sub-National Governance and Development, incorporating the provincial/state/regional sphere of government. The Working Group focuses on key trends and developments in provincial and local governance internationally.

Working Group V. Gender, Diversity, and Equity
Two Co-Chairs to support the working group Project Director: Dr. Laila El-Baradei.

Focus of WG V: This working group focuses on women and underrepresented populations and their role in all facets of society, including government and civil society, and all economic, political, social, and developmental activities.

Gender, diversity, and equity are critical to the development process across territories in developed and developing nations. Across the globe, vast inequalities exist between racial and ethnic groups. The recent rise in populism worldwide has heightened the importance of understanding the need for diversity and equity.

Working Group VIII: Human Resource Management
Two Co-Chairs to support the working group Project Director: Dr. Liza Van Jaarsveldt after the retirement of Dr. Chafika Agueznay.

Focus of WG VIII: Human resources constitute the main asset of public organizations. Their crucial importance has been increasing with the development of globalization and other global phenomena, while the internal administrative environments add pressure to managing human resources. Within the difficult current work and world context, management practices have only sometimes reached the desired rigor, relevance, effectiveness, and efficiency level. New insights into public Human Resource Management (HRM) theory and practice can help public organizations to accomplish their goals. Supporting a positive public workforce that is committed and adaptable to change is required. Public Human resource managers and public servants must have a clear sense of purpose and direction to ensure a culture of excellence is created in public service.

Working Group X: Public Administration in Fragile and Conflict-affected States
A Co-Chair to support the working group Project Director: Dr. Tamer Qarmout.

Focus of WG X: There is mounting evidence that state-building projects have yet to be as effective as expected, despite the clarity of their strategies and the investment of billions of dollars over the years. Political instability remains one of the most important challenges hindering state-building missions in fragile and conflict-affected

countries despite interventions to build stable public administration systems. In addition, corruption remains another major problem. Both corruption and political instabilities create an environment of suspicion and lack of trust between local authorities and state-building missions. Local priorities/policies should be addressed in this environment, and efforts to build transparent and efficient state institutions face challenges. Working Group X aims to explore theoretical and empirical studies addressing efforts to rebuild and reconstruct public administration systems in fragile and conflict-ridden countries.

Application Process:

You are invited to send the following documents to the IASIA Executive Secretary, Mr. Cesar Alfonzo, c.alfonzo@iias-iisa-org, **by 19 June 2023 (5.00 pm Brussels time).**

1. **A Short biography (less than 400 words) and portrait;**
2. **Your CV;**
3. **A cover letter;**
4. **A letter of support from your Institution.**

Please remember to include the following:

- WG name and number that you are applying for;
- Research focus area and scholarship that links to the WG;
- Number of IASIA Conferences attended in the past;
- Number of Conference papers presented in the WG;
- IASIA is an international organization that promotes gender equality and invites women to present their candidacy.

Any inquiries can be addressed to:
The IASIA Executive Secretary, Mr. Cesar Alfonzo c.alfonzo@iias-iisa-org, or
IASIA Vice-President – Programmes, Prof. Liza van Jaarsveldt vjaarlc@unisa.ac.za