



United Nations

Department of
Economic and
Social Affairs



**Online Global Launch of the
Standards of Excellence for Public Administration
Education and Training**

3 April 2025 | 8:00 a.m. – 10:00 .am (EST)

**Online Global Launch of the
Standards of Excellence for Public Administration Education and Training**

*Organized by the
United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UN DESA)
Division for Public Institutions and Digital Government (DPIDG)
and
International Association of Schools and Institutes of Administration (IASIA)*

**Thursday 3 April 2025
8:00 am – 10:00 am New York (EST)**

Via Zoom (https://zoom.us/meeting/register/hvmkl9fCR5SQi_ki35AuTw)

Event Description

The United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UN DESA), through its Division for Public Institutions and Digital Government (DPIDG), in collaboration with the International Association of Schools and Institutes of Administration (IASIA), is organizing a global capacity development webinar to launch the 2025 Standards of Excellence for Public Administration Education and Training.

The Standards, developed by UN DESA and IASIA, will be also launched through regional events in cooperation with schools and institutes of public administration education and training as well as with other relevant partners.

Objectives

The Webinar aims to:

- Raise awareness of the Standards of Excellence for Public Administration Education and Training;
- Discuss their importance for leadership, mindsets and capacities in the public sector in a VUCA world;
- Share the revision and update process of the original 2008 Standards;
- Discuss with Webinar participants what are the Standards of Excellence for Public Administration Education and Training, why they are critical for the world we want and the advancement of a better society, how they can be applied, and what are the expected results of their adoption.

Thematic Focus

The United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UN DESA), through its Division for Public Institutions and Digital Government (DPIDG) and its Project Office on Governance (UNPOG), and the International Association of Schools and Institutes of Administration (IASIA) established in 2023 a Task Force to review and/or update the Standards of Excellence for Public Administration Education and Training. The Standards of Excellence were drafted and finalized in 2008 almost 15 years ago.

While the 2008 Standards were still relevant, they did not refer to recent inter-governmental agreements and the insights from the work undertaken by UN DESA/DPIDG and IASIA in the area of education and training. Most notably, the Standards were issued before the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development was adopted, in 2015, by 193 Member States. The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development recognizes the importance of ensuring inclusive and equitable quality education and promoting lifelong learning opportunities for all (Goal 4) and the need to build peaceful, just, and inclusive societies that provide equal access to justice and that are based on respect for human rights (including the right to development), on effective rule of law and good governance at all levels. Goal 16 of the 2030 Agenda specifically calls for effective, accountable, and inclusive institutions at all levels. Indeed, public institutions play a critical role in the achievement of all the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and targets.

In 2018, the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) endorsed the 11 Principles of Effective Governance for Sustainable Development, drafted by the UN Committee of Experts on Public Administration (CEPA). The last few years have also been marked by and impacted by digital transformation, including Artificial Intelligence.

Revising and upgrading the Standards of Excellence has represented a real opportunity to affect the world for good profoundly. The Standards were reviewed to mainstream the Sustainable Development Goals and reflect new developments in public administration. The review was conducted through a global and regional consultative process. It took place between 2023 and 2024. Over 1,000 contributions were received by schools and institutes of public administration, networks, academia, and representatives of international, regional, and national organizations through an online survey and by attending the various meetings scheduled throughout the year.

Format

The Webinar will run for two hours. It will be conducted in English. It will include an overview of the revision and update of the 2008 original Standards and the presentation of the new Standards. The development of indicators to measure the new Standards' implementation will also be presented. The presentations will be followed by a panel discussion and an open discussion/Q&A.

The recordings and the presentations will be posted on the website after the conclusion of the Webinar. The follow-up actions, including key recommendations will be disseminated through the UN DESA and IASIA websites.

Target Audience

The target audience of the Webinar includes schools of public administration and institutes of public management around the world, academics, universities, training institutions, and other interested stakeholders, as well as members of the United Nations Public Administration Network (UNPAN). The Webinar is open to the public upon registration.

Expected Results

The Webinar will result in:

- Enhanced awareness of the Standards of Excellence for Public Administration Education and Training.
- Increased understanding of their importance for leadership, mindsets and capacities in the public sector in a VUCA world and how they can support the strengthening of effective governance and public institutions.
- Knowledge sharing on training offerings of schools of public administration for the implementation of the Standards of Excellence for Public Administration Education and Training.
- Enhanced understanding on how the Standards can be applied and the expected results of their adoption.
- Identified possible areas for further collaboration and training of trainers in the adoption of the Standards.

Upon completion of the Webinar, a survey will be circulated to gauge the capacity development interest of participating schools of public administration to adapt and implement the Standards of Excellence for Public Administration Education and Training given their national contexts. Follow-up activities can also include peer to peer learning workshops on developing capacities to promote the adoption of the Standards and their indicators.

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