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International Association of Schools and Institutes of Administration

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IASIA Conference 2020

Public Administration in the Fourth Industrial Revolution

20-25 JULY, BELA BELA
LIMPOPO, SOUTH AFRICA

Call for papers

IASIA Conference 2020
"Public Administration in the Fourth Industrial Revolution"
20-25 July 2020 in Bela Bela, South Africa

The International Association of Schools and Institutes of Administration (IASIA) is organizing in close collaboration with the University of South Africa the IASIA Conference 2020 to be held on 20-25 July 2020 in Bela Bela-Limpopo Province, South Africa.
The conference will bring together practitioners, academics, PhD students and young researchers in public administration and management, as well as contributors from any other disciplines who will exchange on current and ongoing topics and concerns during the various sessions:

- Plenary sessions
- Special panels/forums
- Permanent and ad-hoc Working Groups' sessions
- PhD Seminar.

Hence, we warmly invite you to submit your contributions on the hereafter mentioned topics of the permanent working groups of IASIA, the main conference theme which will be discussed by working group XI as well as the tailor-made session for PhD students:

Submission track	Chairs
Working Group I: Education and Training in Public Administration	Hendri Kroukamp Ludmila Gajdosova Blue Wooldridge
Working Group II: Ethics and Culture in the Public Sector	Najat Zarrouk Pregala Pillay
Working Group III: Public Sector Reform	Randhir Auluck Benoit Cathala Alketa Peci
Working Group IV: Subnational Governance and Development	Cristina Rodriguez-Acosta Amitava Basu Roberta Ryan
Working Group V: Gender, Diversity and Equity	Susan Gooden Laila El-Baradei
Working Group VI: Public Sector Governance, Leaderships and Management	Liezel Lues Yingchun Sun Juraj Nemec
Working Group VII: Public Policy, Decision-making and Policy Implementation	Christina Andrews Henry Wissink Michiel S de Vries
Working Group VIII: Public Sector Human Resources Management	Chafika Agueznay Liza van Jaarsveldt

Working Group IX: International Dimensions of the Public Administration	Frank Naert Ruben Dario Echeverry Adrian Velazquez Vazquez
Working Group X: Public Administration in Fragile and Conflict-affected States	Tamer Qarmout
Working Group XI: Public Administration in the Fourth Industrial Revolution	Werner Webb
PhD Seminar	

Conference participants will also have the opportunity to attend plenary sessions and specific panels which will discuss topics related to public administration and to education and training, such as the Host Country Panel: "Public Administration in South Africa", the panel on Education and Training in PA, the Forum of Heads of Schools and Institutes, the Forum of PA Associations and Networks, the ICAPA accreditation, and many other panels.

SUBMISSION MODALITIES

All information on the IASIA Conference 2020 is available at https://www.iasia-conference2020.org/

To submit an abstract, go to https://www.iasia-conference2020.org/registration-submission/

MODALITÉS DE SOUMISSION

Toutes les informations relatives à la conférence 2020 de l'AIEIA sont disponibles sur https://www.iasia-conference2020.org/

Pour soumettre un résumé, aller à https://www.iasia-conference2020.org/registration-submission/

	CALENDAR	CALENDRIER	
15 February 2020	Abstract submission deadline	Date limite pour envoyer le résumé	**15 février 2020**
15 March 2020	Authors' notification	Notifications aux auteurs	**15 mars 2020**
1 June 2020	Final paper submission deadline	Date limite pour la soumission des communications finales	**1 juin 2020**
1 June 2020	Deadline for registration and payment	Date limite pour les inscriptions et les paiements	**1 juin 2020**

TO APPLY TO ALL WORKING GROUPS

Potential presenters should keep in mind that "best complete papers" submitted to any Working Group are considered for publication in the International Review of Administrative Science and for the prestigious Pierre De Celles Award

Expected formats of paper and oral presentation:

A format and structure of a paper should reflect its category – either research paper, theoretical paper, or a case study. Authors are requested to follow relevant academic standards.

Potential presenters should prepare themselves for a presentation of 15 minutes maximum.

The use of appropriate visual aids, such as PowerPoint, is encouraged but not required.

Introduction to the theme

The world and technology are changing at a faster rate than ever before.

The first industrial revolution introduced the steam engine, the second mass industrialization, and the third is known as the digital revolution.

Coined by Schwab (2016), the term Fourth Industrial Revolution, 4IR or Industry 4.0 denotes the unique convergence of the physical, digital and biological worlds. At the core of the Fourth Industrial Revolution lies the Internet of Things (IoT). The IoT is a network upgrading the functionality of everyday objects. The IoT is expected to have a big influence on citizen's lives (Rouse 2019), through disruptive technologies and trends such as Smart Cities, Robotics, Virtual Reality (VR) and Artificial Intelligence (AI), which together constitute 4IR.

4IR offers huge potential to transform and realign economies and societies. It is expected to create a profound shift in all industries by reshaping production, consumption, transportation and the delivery of services. According to Li et al (2017: 637), it provides great opportunities especially for developing countries to upgrade industrial capacity and create markets at a faster pace.

Regarding public services, the Fourth Industrial Revolution – and the innovative use of technologies in e-governance processes more generally – allows improving the quality of life of citizens. For example, Smart Cities can assist citizens and the public service to reduce water and energy consumption. Public services such as education and healthcare can be delivered at lower costs, with improved efficiency and effectiveness, and more transparency, accountability, engagement and communication with citizens (Schwab 2016: 127).

Yet 4IR also creates numerous challenges for governments, public servants and citizens.

Most governments are still struggling to understand the implications of the fourth industrial revolution (Schwab 2016: 36). Adapting to the Fourth Industrial Revolution and new technologies is taking time: facts or information need to be collected, and regulatory frameworks designed. Yet citizens, especially millennials, live in an on-demand society (the now world), and expect public servants to respond immediately to their needs and expectations. Governments thus need to make swift decisions without full information, at risk of failing to seize the opportunities of better public services offered by the 4IR. At the same time, they also need to carefully plan for the future (Lye 2017).

4IR could also cause disruptions to citizens. Governments should be prepared for increased unemployment and inequality flowing from automatization of routine tasks. Failing to mitigate the effects and consequences of the Fourth Industrial Revolution (Lye 2017) could result in social unrest. Overall, governments must maximize positive social and environmental outcomes unlocked by 4IR innovations while mitigating their risks. This supposes the development of knowledge, skills, human and material resources.

Working Group I

Education and Training in Public Administration: Aligning Mission and Quality

Chairs:
Hendri Kroukamp, University of the Free State, South Africa
Ludmila Gajdosova, NISPAcee, Slovak Republic

Project Director:
Blue Wooldridge, Virginia Commonwealth University, United States

The mission of WORKING GROUP I Education and Training Programme: aligning missions and quality is to stimulate the development of resources that will develop High Performing Schools and Institutes of Administration around the world. These SIA's will provide instruction, research, and consultancy services that will increase the Economic, Efficient, Effective, Ethical and Equitable delivery of public goods and services. Working Group I exists to enhance the competencies of students/participants to design, deliver, and evaluate public/Non-Governmental Organizations' goods and services for the 4th Industrial Revolution and to use the resources and capabilities that will characterize this Revolution. Because of this mission, Working Group I is considered by many to be the "heart" of the International Association of Schools and Institutes of Administration.

Questions:

This Working Group is encouraging papers that response to the following research questions:

Competencies required by our students/participants: What competencies are required by our students/participants to meet the challenges of designing, monitoring and evaluating the administrative structures and policy procedures to ensure the delivery of economic, efficient, effective, ethical and equitable public goods and services during this 4th Industrial Revolution? What new skills and theories are needed by our students/participants to achieve these competencies?

Instructional methods: In light of the expected characteristics of the 4th Revolution, what are the "best" methods for developing these competencies? For what types of students?

Evaluation: How do we evaluate whether our students gain these competencies?

Distributional methods: What are the "best" ways of distributing these instructions (ie: lectures, visuals, internet, learning packages, online education, etc) for achieving these competencies?

Research: What research needs to be carried out by staff and students on the requisites, consequences, and practices of meeting the challenges posed to achieve the state of "Good Governance" under the conditions of the 4th Industrial Revolution?

Curricula and staff: Do the above listed issues require special changes of curricula of the public administration teaching and training programmes? If yes, in which way, what should be done? Do these changes require new skills and competences of teaching staff and managers of programmes?

Other topics relevant to the designing and managing SIAs and the enhancement of Instructions in Schools and Institutes of Administrations are welcomed.

Papers directed at the listed questions can be based upon empirical research, theoretical considerations, and/or case studies. For single site case studies, every effort should be made to identify the relevance of findings to other situations. In every presentation, evidence-based implications for the improvement of training and education and/or the management and design of Schools and Institutes of Administration should be clear. Proposers are encouraged to review the UNDESA/IASIA "Standards of Excellence" and their supporting criteria for possible topics and research questions (https://iasia.iias-iisa.org/accreditation.php)

Criteria used by the WGI leadership for the selection of presentations include:

- the relevance of the presentation for the study of Public Administration Pedagogy
- the relevance of the presentation for the practice of Public Administration Pedagogy
- the unique added value to the study and/or practice of Public Administration Pedagogy
- the soundness and consistency of the argumentation
- the originality of the research question/problem formulation
- the significance of the findings for other SIAs
- the quality and understandability of the writing

Working Group II

Ethics and Culture in the Public sector

Chair:
Najat Zarrouk, African Local Government Academy, Kingdom of Morocco
Pregala Pillay, University of Stellenbosch, South Africa

The IASIA Conference 2020 aims to bring together academics, researchers, experts, policymakers, practitioners, leaders, civil society and students to engage in deeper conversations and robust engagements on technological and digital changes of the Fourth Industrial Revolution and its growing significance on ***corruption, ethics, integrity, accountability, probity, honesty and the rule of law.***

We are sometimes oblivious to the myriad of momentous and rapid changes that have taken place in the last century. The ***Fourth Industrial Revolution*** is upon us as we face our own set of labour-force consequences as this ***Digital Revolution*** progresses. We stand on the center of a technological revolution (such as artificial intelligence, robotics, the Internet of Things, autonomous vehicles, 3-D printing, nanotechnology, biotechnology, materials science, energy storage, and quantum computing) that will fundamentally alter the way we live, work, and relate to one another. It is clear that we need individuals who understand how technology and society interact to drive progress for all actors and stakeholders, grow the economy and maintain sustainable development.

In ***digitizing and modernizing public administration,*** we are also confronted by a set of new and unprecedented ***challenges, uncertainties and risks.*** This includes inter alia., corrupt and unethical practices in cybersecurity, legal violations, privacy and trust breaches, data insecurity, unethical data flows, illicit financial flows, money laundering and financial irregularities, secrecy and criminality, inadequate security platforms and scams, other social and economic consequences, to name a few. Events around the globe paint a bleak picture that casts a harsh light on the prevalence and persistence of grand and petty corruption that causes serious and widespread harm to individuals and society.

The fusion of technologies, which is blurring the lines between the physical, digital and biological spheres, requires fostering ***new social technologies, legislative and governance arrangements and IT applications.*** There is a collective need for governments across the globe to follow suit and review their legislative enforcement, institutional instruments, cyber security operational mechanisms, and holistic compliance systems in order to curb corruption and other cybercrime.

This Conference creates a dynamic and versatile platform to learn, share, discuss and benchmark on the following sub-themes:

- Stock-taking on the progress made in the implementation of global and continental agendas
- Challenges, uncertainties and risks abetted by technological innovations
- Moral, Ethical and Legal Reflections and Dilemmas
- Solutions, Remedies and Recommendations
- Best practices in fighting corruption and promoting ethics in the public sphere
- Diverse case studies are welcome as this provides an opportunity for all actors and stakeholders to reflect on theory, policy and practice

The themes above should reflect and resonate with "The World We Want" through the Global Agendas for 2030, the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and Agenda 2063 „The Africa we want" in its Aspiration 3, an Africa of good governance, democracy, respect for human rights, justice and the rule of law.

Working Group III

Public Sector Reform

Chairs:
Benoit Cathala, Centre National de la Fonction Publique Territoriale, France
Randhir Auluck, Coventry University, United Kingdom

Project Director:
Alketa Peci, Fundación Getúlio Vargas, Brazil/ London School of Economics, United Kingdom

The fourth industrial revolution has changed broader social dynamics, while simultaneously pressing for a transformative public sector, oriented by evidence-based policies in search for ambitious missions and goals in delivering public goods, aware of the pressure for austerity and fiscal constrains in face of continuous economic and even democratic crises.

Public sector reforms in different contexts and policy areas illustrate how data analytics capacities may contribute to balance the competing demands of efficiency with those of efficacy, social equity and sustainability. In addition, such capacities may improve the experiences of citizens and businesses in their interactions with the State. However, the development of data analytics capacities or evidence-based policies also indicate the difficulties public administration face to overcome traditional biases of decision-making, in terms of race, gender, religion, ethnicity or other intersections of social exclusion.

The call for papers of the Public Sector Reform working groups aims to contribute to the main conference theme, welcoming contributions that focus on how the public sector reform may foster the role of public administration in the Fourth Industrial Revolution. Papers that discuss intraorganizational and interorganizational aspects of reforms aiming to develop data analytics capacities and their contribution to policymaking are particularly welcomed. In addition, analysis of how to build institutional and organizational capacity to ensure social stability, justice, peace, and prosperity are welcomed. We also encourage topics such as: evidence-based decision making, the management of public sector organizations, public sector performance, e-government, transparency and accountability, environmental and social equity concern, corruption and integrity in public sector, networks and partnerships with nonprofits and private sectors, civil society engagement, among many others. We especially welcome strong conceptual and methodological contributions, along with best practices and case studies that discuss local experiences. Academics and practitioners are invited to participate in conference discussions, paper presentations, and experience sharing.

Working IV

Sub-National Governance & Development

Chairs:
Cristina Rodriguez-Acosta, Florida International University, United States
Amitava Basu, Center for Environmental Management & Participatory Development, New Delhi, India

Project Director:
Roberta Ryan, University of Technology Sydney, Australia

The Fourth Industrial Revolution (4IR) has brought in massive transformation through development and blending of technologies in the physical, digital and biological fields. The 4IR underlines the potential for vast change in managing human life and presents a myriad of opportunities and challenges. The emerging transformation is bound to impact on the approach to public administration and an overarching influence on the life of the citizenry. It is of particular significance to the sub-national governments, which have close connection with the needs, demands and patterns of life of the citizens, to be in readiness to address the transformation surfacing from the 4IR.

Sub-Themes

Against this background and under the broader context of the conference theme, Working Group IV invites papers on the following sub-themes:

a) Sustainable Cities & Local Economic Development: Impacts of the 4IR are largely evident in urban areas usually characterized by density and diversity of population that provides scope for evolving innovative ecosystems. To reap the benefits of the change and achieve global standards, urban local bodies need to adapt to use emerging technology, build local innovation systems, enact and enforce smart regulations, explore public private partnerships for better quality of life and livelihood.

b) Municipal Governance & Building Public Trust: Increasing corruption and poor accountability, especially at the municipal level of several countries, are creating trust deficit with the local government. Hence, enhancement of governance through strengthening transparency and accountability is of vital necessity. In this regard, new technologies such as Block Chain and Distributed Ledger Technologies etc., arising from the 4IR, carry potential to provide transparencies to government processes and identify responsibility. To instill accountability and transparency in governance and increase citizens' trust on municipalities is of colossal importance. Consequently the preparedness of municipal bodies through skill-building, procedural amendments, and implementation of public disclosure systems is of urgent necessity.

c) Urban Environmental Management: Sprawling and often unplanned urban growth has propelled complex interactions between cities and the natural environment. To address these key challenges for ensuring environmental sustainability and lower pollution, attention to introduction and use of clean energy, and resilient systems is particularly important. The actions in this context could be supported by innovations emerging out of the 4IR.

d) Democratic Decentralization: To meet the global commitment that no one is left behind, one important requirement is informed decisions and decentralized governance systems. Technological advancement leading to the data revolution and information availability will decentralize power to the sub-national level, greatly reducing control and footprint of the national government in the citizen's daily life.

Working Group V

Gender, Diversity and Equity

Chairs:
Susan Gooden, Virginia Commonwealth University, United States

Project Director:
Laila El-Baradei, American University in Cairo, Egypt

In line with the theme of the IASIA 2020 conference, the focus of Working Group V will be on how to deal with and capitalize on the Fourth Industrial Revolution as related to gender, diversity and equity.

Questions:

- What type of innovative public services can be provided through the Fourth Industrial Revolution to help overcome inequities?
- What are success stories by government and civil society related to the Fourth Industrial Revolution that will positively impact the quality of life for women, the disabled and other marginalized groups in society?
- How can the Fourth Industrial Revolution help overcome inequities in health and education and other public services?
- What are the opportunities for a better-quality life for women, the disabled and marginalized groups in society with the advent of the Fourth Industrial Revolution?
- Will developing countries help catch up with the Industrial Revolution 4.0 and use it to overcome discrimination and inequities, specifically gender inequities?
- In our academic programs, do we deal with the Fourth Industrial Revolution and how it will impact gender, diversity and inequity? Are we preparing our students well for the future? What more needs to be done?

Working Group VI

Public Sector Governance, Leaderships and Management

Chairs:
Liezel Lues, University of the Free State, Republic of South Africa
Yingchun Sun, China National Academy of Governance, China

Project Director:
Juraj Nemec, Masaryk University, Czech Republic

Working Group VI core thematic area is Public Sector Governance, leadership and management. The Fourth Industrial Revolution is expected to create a profound shift in the delivery of public services, with the aim to improve the quality of life of citizens and to achieve Sustainable Development Goals. To achieve this, it creates numerous challenges for the quality and the contents of public sector governance, leaderships and management.

Governance has implications that extend beyond the institutional arrangements that are the focus of policy and program design. "Good governance" determines the outcomes and final success of 4IR. The following questions come to mind:

- What are the core factors enabling "good governance"?
- How does the 4IR influence "good governance"?
- How will the public administration and public service communicate and interact with citizens in the future?

The performance of any country to a large extent depends on leaderships and its quality, especially in the current situation when 4IR and other factors create new important challenges for leaders. The following questions come to mind:

- How to translate effective leadership into prudent public policy formulation and implementation, as well as good public service delivery, to meet the needs and aspirations of the citizenry?
- How to stimulate, support and promote strong leadership resulting into a coherent implementation plan and engagement of all government departments and diverse stakeholders to ensure that the Sustainable Development Goals are achieved at national and international levels?
- How does 4IR influence the role and responsibility of current leaders?

To respond to the current challenges and 4IR developments, core public management functions such as managing people, managing financial resources, and managing information continue to evolve and develop. The following questions come to mind:

- Do public sector management and its subsystems sufficiently contribute to effective governance?
- How to achieve "good" public management in the 4IR era?

- What are the impacts of 4IR on management of delivery of public services?
- How can security, especially cyber security, be handled in public sector information management?

Expected formats of paper and oral presentation:

All types of academic papers are welcomed – quantitative, qualitative, case studies, literature reviews, etc. The value added, goals, research methods and findings (and their limits) must be explicitly formulated. The oral presentation should focus on research questions and findings and their limits, the length of presentation is expected to be app. 15 minutes max.

The WG coordinators will accept abstracts that adhere to the following format.

When submitting an abstract, authors are requested to follow the proposed structure:

- Name, surname, institution, contact details
- Sub-theme
- Topic
- Purpose of the envisaged paper
- Design/methodology/approach applied
- Main findings
- Practical implications
- Originality/value

Abstract length: 500 words

Working Group VII

Public Policy, Decision-making and Policy Implementation

Chairs:
Christina Andrews, Federal University of São Paulo, Brazil
Henry Wissink, University of KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa

Project Director:
Michiel de Vries, Radboud University, The Netherlands

This working group invites paper proposals on scholarly research into new public policy developments from all over the world, be it on either the national, regional or local level. The papers could address the following themes:

1. This working group is accepting proposals the conference theme: **Public Administration in the Fourth Industrial Revolution: Challenges, Implications and Opportunities,** which include papers addressing how the fourth industrial revolution may impact government policies, especially in view of the relation between technology and socially desirable outcomes such as equality, privacy protection, and economic development. We especially look for proposals that shed light into the difficulties and achievements of such policies, with a focus on the role of the different organizations involved (public, private, and not-for-profit).

2. In addition to proposals on the conference's theme, WG VII will be accepting empirical papers that address the topics of decision-making, design, implementation, and evaluation. These may include case studies, surveys, and comparative studies in all public policy areas, such as education, health, economic development, science and technology, climate change, etc..

3. Finally, WB VII will also accept proposals addressing conceptual frameworks that have been developed to understand the nature of public policies as well as providing guidelines for the development of hands-on approaches. Such conceptual frameworks may include "joined-up government", "whole-of-government", "network governance", "agenda setting", and "wicked problems".

4. Depending on the topic and/or nature of the issue, annotated and exhaustive PowerPoint presentations will also be considered in place of full papers. Please note that presentations should not exceed 10 min. Therefore, please limit the number of slides to 10, and include at least one slide for the objectives/purposes and one for the conclusions/final considerations.

Working Group VIII

Public Sector Human Resources Management

Chair:
Chafika Agueznay, Ecole Nationale Supérieure d'Administration, Kingdom of Morocco

Project Director:
Liza van Jaarsveldt, University of South Africa, South Africa

The developments relevant to the various industrial revolutions impacted society since the 18th century. It was the first industrial revolution that created production lines in factories. These production lines marked a big shift in the use of human resources. During the second and third industrial revolutions as technology developed and information became more important so did human resources. Governments and organizations expected of employees to develop new skills and to communicate differently. The requirements of the Fourth Industrial Revolution (4IR) will no doubt influence the world of work and human resources drastically in ways we might not yet understand. Human Resource managers are at the frontline of organizations that have to address the challenges and changes of a rapidly changing world. HR must provide critical insights in identifying which responsibilities can be automated and which will be managed by humans. Artificial intelligence (AI), virtual organizations, automated systems, robotics and block chain are just some of the aspects that will influence the public service, human resources and the current and future workforce. What can we expect of a public service where AI creates an environment where workers and machines collaborate to deliver services to citizens. Work process will continuously evolve at a rapid speed with current skills becoming outdated. In some instances reskilling will be required and in other instances some occupations will become obsolete resulting in job losses and increased unemployment. Public servants are likely to work in a significantly more complex, interconnected, unpredictable and evolving environment. In addition the public service of the future might be a virtual organization with temporary workers. Some questions that could be reflected on include:

- How can public servants be prepared and empowered to be ready for the 4IR?
- What skills should public servants have as we approach the 4IR?
- How will work processes differ in the 4IR?
- Are public human resources managers planning for the 4IR?
- What aspects should human resource management be focusing on in a fast-changing work and world environment?
- How should a diverse and mobile workforce be managed?
- How can change and a fear of the unknown by public servants be managed?
- What will motivate public servants as they enter the 4IR?
- How can talent be retained in a global competitive environment where people move around and

constantly look for better opportunities?

- How can employee wellness be ensured in the 4IR?
- Will performance management still be relevant and useful in the future public service?

Working Group IX

International Dimensions of Public Administration

Chairs:
Frank Naert, Ghent University, Belgium
Ruben Dario Echeverry, Universidad del Valle, Colombia

Project Director:
Adrian Vasquez Velasquez, University of la Verne, United States

The advent and combination of technologies have created diverse scenarios for the interaction of citizens with their governments. As the physical and digital spheres tend to merge, public policy responses need to adapt to the rapid innovation brought up by these technological changes and the involvement of private sector actors leading these initiatives. The interconnectedness of the world creates effects that, needless to say, go beyond national frontiers and affect entire regional and international systems. Consequently, challenges and opportunities arise to address the complexities of implementing and adapting to the changes of this so-called Fourth Industrial Revolution (4IR).

Working Group IX seeks papers that address the multiple commitments of international public administrations, at the technical, legal and administrative levels, to deal with the effects of the 4IR. Contributions can involve topics related to international issues, legal changes, and comparative aspects that make institutions especially susceptible to the evolving environments brought up by the 4IR. As governments have started to design policies and implement responses to deal with fluctuating landscapes posed by the 4IR, traditional governance systems and interactions with citizens have been impacted in significant ways. It is of special interest to this working group to broaden our understanding of the unintended consequences of private actors' involvement in traditional public governance areas, such as housing, environmental practices, economic policies, education and training, conflict resolution, managing of migrations, and the involvement of giant monopolistic corporations dwarfing or interfering with governmental efforts to deal with such changes.

Working Group IX particularly encourages studies that analyze the design and implementation of governmental and non-governmental practices, in any of the fields described above, as well as theoretical and/or empirical studies addressing international dimensions of education and training of public policy and administration that aim to deal with the advent of technological changes and their impacts at the international level.

Examples of expected research questions in this Working Group include, but are not limited to:

- What international or comparative dimensions should be considered in the different governmental and non-governmental efforts to address the effects of the 4IR?
- How are the challenges of the 4IR affecting international systems of governance?
- What are some specific examples of comparative and/or international responses that deal with issues and impacts created by the 4IR?

Former participants of this working group who wish to continue the lines of inquiry established in previous IASIA conferences are especially welcome to submit their work. In order to also give the opportunity to practitioners to participate in the working group activities, annotated and exhaustive PowerPoint presentations will also be considered.

Working Group X

Public Administration in Fragile and Conflict-affected States

Chair:
Tamer Qarmout, Doha Institute for Graduate Studies, Qatar

The fourth industrial revolution promises substantial socioeconomic opportunities, but also poses challenges for societies all over the world. Many of these opportunities and challenges are well explained and articulated in the call for papers for this important conference. However, most of the intellectual debate has focused on rich and middle-income countries, and largely neglected low-income, fragile, and conflict-ridden countries. The fact that the fourth industrial revolution has originated from and is led by rich countries makes it geared towards responding to needs of richer economics. Fragile and conflict-ridden countries face great political and social challenges; these include limited resources and weakened or nonexistent institutional and governance capacities, which severely limits their ability to adopt newer technologies even if there were newer technologies that could meet their needs. Hence, increased adoption of new technologies introduced by the fourth industrial revolution could exacerbate the already wide gaps between richer countries and lower-income, fragile, and conflict-ridden countries. To start with, fragile countries suffer from poor ICT infrastructure, weak education systems, high unemployment and poverty rates, weakened institutional and regularity environments, and lack of investments and weak integration in global markets. Such characteristics present the biggest challenges for these countries in terms of their ability to adapt with such a substantial transformation.

Despite such challenges, there is also promising evidence that the fourth industrial revolution has the potential to bring some innovative solutions to support social and public services design and delivery in fragile contexts. For instance, the Fourth Industrial Revolution has sped up innovation in the health domain, in the form of "telehealth" programming for example, which has the potential to be very useful in a fragile and conflict-ridden country context. Tele-health is widely foreshowed as a solution to access problems that plague remote areas, resource-limited regions, and conflict-ridden countries. Another example is supporting the agriculture sector in countries suffering from draughts in the form of the development of new seeds that allow corps to grow faster and better with less consumption of water. A third example is using drones to deliver critically needed supplies to inaccessible areas such as blood to hospitals in the remote parts of countries.

In this panel, we invite researchers and practitioners to share their research and experiences to examine all the challenges and opportunities the fourth industrial revolution can bring to fragile countries.

Working Group XI

Public Administration in the Fourth Industrial Revolution

Chair:
Werner Webb, University of South Africa

Although the fourth industrial revolution heralds in a time of exciting change and an increased pace of technological development it also leaves many governments with unanswered questions. Some of these unanswered questions relate to the impact of new technology on employment, the economy, ethics, equality and policy dilemmas related to transparency, security, ownership and privacy. The one aspect that leaders, public servants and scholars can agree on is that the 4IR is an unstoppable force that will require careful debate, consideration and planning by governments around the world. The 4IR leaves governments and policy experts contemplating who will take decisions on behalf of citizens in the future. Will governments still make decisions on what they view as being in the best interest of their citizens or will decisions be based on computer programmes that make use of algorithms. Will citizen's autonomy shrink as technological developments continue to increase and take over the role and responsibility of governments? In this regard public officials at local government sphere may be replaced with computer programmes that have no compassion for the poor, the marginalised or the destitute.

More worrying for citizens specifically is that the middle class is in danger of disappearing as a technology driven job marked that is focused on 'low-skill/low-pay" and "high-skill/high-pay" jobs become prominent while those in the middle class with specific skills become obsolete. To date those that have benefited most from technological developments are those that are able to access technology and can afford to pay for it. Some authors and scholars are of the view that the 4IR could lead to a new divide and greater inequality. Those that can afford to have access to technology and those that cannot. Inequality represents the greatest societal concern associated with the 4IR. Considering the inequality that already exists between developed and developing countries, the advent of the 4IR leaves many developing countries wondering if new technology as well as the access and cost of new technology will lead to even greater inequality. More concerning than increased inequality is the inevitable association of 4IR and digital colonialism.

Questions:

- Will decisions in government be based on computer algorithms rather than public interest values such as compassion and empathy?
- Can the 4IR lead to renewed forms of colonialism?
- What policy decisions should governments in developing countries make with regard to the 4IR?
- Will the 4IR lead to more job losses in developing countries that give rise to greater inequality?
- Can the 4IR lead to increased industrialization in cities that are already struggling to provide

basic services and opportunities to citizens?

- What are the challenges, opportunities, and threats which the 4IR poses to Africa's developmental goals?
- How should policy role players embrace and contextualize the context provided by the 4IR?
- How could the 4IR assist government(s) in pursuing more efficient, effective and accountable governance?
- What is the role of 4IR in achieving the sustainable developmental goals (SDG)?

IASIA PhD Seminar

Description and objective of the Seminar

The IASIA PhD Seminar will provide young researchers with a unique opportunity to engage with an international and interdisciplinary research community. The PhD Seminar will offer the PhD Students the occasion to present and discuss their research framework, methodology and results to senior scholars and their peers and to share research problems and concerns. The Seminar will also provide them with a platform for discussion and with a first opportunity to confront their ideas with comments from international community of scholars and practitioners.

The chairs will present an overview of different theories and research methodologies in the field.

Features and Format

Two plenary sessions will be dedicated to the presentation and use of PA theory and methodology. In addition and during two sessions, the selected candidates will be able to present their research framework, research question and existing results. Presentations must be brief (10 mins) and supported by a PowerPoint. Each presentation will be discussed with the chairs and the peers present at the session.

Submission of proposals

Depending on the stage of the thesis, candidates must submit the following:

- An abstract or a research proposal (first year students)
- Table of Content, a sample chapter as well as a bibliography (from second year and on)

Important: All candidates must submit a Curriculum Vitae.

Selection conditions and other requirements

The candidates willing to present must be already enrolled in a PhD programme and have the agreement of their supervisor to attend the PhD seminar.

Only accepted candidates will be able to present their contributions and receive recommendations from the chairs. Nonetheless, the session is open to all PhD students attending the IASIA conference.

Full participation to the PhD seminar is required for the selected candidates. Only candidates that have attended all sessions will be awarded a certificate of participation to the PhD seminar.

In addition, PhD students are highly recommended to attend the “How to get published” session which will take place during the conference. The session aims at presenting and giving a piece of advice in terms of submission and publication processes.

SUBMISSION MODALITIES

All information on the IASIA Conference 2020 is available at https://www.iasia-conference2020.org/

To submit an abstract, go to https://www.iasia-conference2020.org/registration-submission/

MODALITÉS DE SOUMISSION

Toutes les informations relatives à la conférence 2020 de l'AIEIA sont disponibles sur https://www.iasia-conference2020.org/

Pour soumettre un résumé, aller à https://www.iasia-conference2020.org/registration-submission/

	CALENDAR	CALENDRIER	
15 February 2020	Abstract submission deadline	Date limite pour envoyer le résumé	**15 février 2020**
15 March 2020	Authors' notification	Notifications aux auteurs	**15 mars 2020**
1 June 2020	Final paper submission deadline	Date limite pour la soumission des communications finales	**1 juin 2020**
1 June 2020	Deadline for registration and payment	Date limite pour les inscriptions et les paiements	**1 juin 2020**

GENERAL GUIDELINES FOR ABSTRACTS, FINAL PAPERS and ORAL PRESENTATIONS

All types of academic papers are welcomed – quantitative, qualitative, case studies, literature reviews, etc.

GUIDELINES FOR ABSTRACTS:

If you submit an abstract for a paper to be presented at the conference, you should only point out what the paper is about; how the paper is related to previous research on the matter; the method you use to answer the main question underlying the paper, what the contents of your paper contribute to the working group subject, and why the contents of your paper are relevant. **The abstract should not exceed 500 words.**

Abstracts can be structured as follows:

- This paper [describes/explores/explains/tests/argues] .....
- Existing [research/theory] pointed to....
- Based on [a case-study/interviews with.../document analysis/survey/reassessment of ...] this paper tries to answer the following question .....
- The outcomes point to....
- This is relevant because ....

GUIDELINES FOR FINAL PAPERS:

General: manuscript pages should be numbered. This includes not only the text but also the notes, references, displayed quotations, tables and all other material. A maximum length of **6,000 words is recommended.**

The cover sheet should include: **names of all authors,** address, institution, position in the institution, country and e-mail address.

Title page should include:

1. Full title

2. Subtitle

3. Abstract (100-150 words): background; aim; method; results; conclusion

Manuscripts should include:

1. Table of content with links

2. Main text

3. Footnotes: typed

4. References: typed, at the end of the manuscript

5. Tables: each table should have an explanatory caption and be presented on a separate sheet at the end of the manuscript. Please check that each table is cited in the text.

EXPECTED ORAL PRESENTATION:

The oral presentation should focus on research questions and findings and their limits, the length of presentation is expected to be app. 15 minutes max.