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**February 26-29 KENYA**

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## International Collaborative Governance

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In the post COVID-19 era, the trend in public administration discourses has been to emphasize a permanent situation of crises as the hallmark of contemporary times: more sanitary crises could be expected, the war in Ukraine and Sino-American tensions would revive Cold War type of security risks, and the overrun of global warming thresholds would lead to an increasing occurrence of extreme climatic episodes. Such discourses tend to call up on the acronym VUCA (Volatile, Uncertain, Complex and Ambiguous), the idea of “poly-crises storms” or on the COVID-19 era’s concept of new normal.

This discourse then takes two divergent paths. One portrays vulnerable societies and organizations on the verge of collapse and reaffirms the centrality of public service and of its values to weather the storm. The times are fearful, but the government is there to guide and serve you! An emphasis on the distinctive cultural values is needed to legitimize the verticality of power in national contexts, its corollary being a deglobalization agenda.

Others de-emphasizes the exceptional character of contemporary crises. Instead, the continuity they see in the growing complexity of society and public action warrant a further step towards the third public administration paradigm. It is grounded in horizontality between actors whose different rationalities, legitimacies, origins, and interests are harnessed to develop innovative approaches to contemporary challenges. They turn the VUCA acronym VUCA to stress actual feasibility over fear: Vision, Understanding, Clarity and Agility.

It is in this second stream that the IIAS-KSG Mombasa Conference 2024 is situated. **It projects the Western collaborative governance agenda in the global scene where it fits with Global South discourses for more inclusive global governance and calls the synthesis International Collaborative Governance.**

## Collaborative Governance

Since New Public Management emerged as an intellectually articulated attack on the dysfunctions of bureaucracy, the field of public administration has been in search for a third way that keeps government in the driving seat while making the now necessary concessions to the modernizers. In his seminal paper on NPM, Hood (1991) would call lambda-type PA this yet unknown species.

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Moore (1995)'s public value concept forever blurs the distinction between public and private organizations. Public value is value delivered to the public on the entire public production chain – which one being an empirical and political question. Public value is an alternative bottom line to profit for organizations.

From here flows a double role for the public service. It helps define public value in the local context on the one hand. Denhardt & Denhardt (2000) distill a “New Public Service” concept, where the “primary role of the public servant is to help citizens articulate and meet their shared interests rather than to attempt to control or steer society.” Scholarly concerns for inclusion, participation and representative bureaucracy are directly related to the need to achieve the largest consensual basis possible for public action.

Inspired by the tradition of Lipsky that puts emphasis on organizational and individual agency necessarily leading to implementation gaps, the second stream shares the same concerns on the public value delivery side. As many other others, Osborne's (2006) New Public Governance paradigm is concerned with interorganizational performance, while Bovaird's (2007) coproduction concept invites to focus on shop-level interaction patterns.

Most recent works (Brandsen et al., 2018; Sørensen & Torfing, 2011; Torfing, 2019) examine interaction settings on the entire policy cycle, and the design functions public authorities have regarding those settings.

In this conference, we stick to Ansell & Gash's (2007) version. They define **collaborative governance** as *“a governing arrangement where one or more public agencies directly engage non-state stakeholders in a collective decision-making process that is formal, consensus-oriented, and deliberative and that aims to make or implement public policy or manage public programs or assets.”*

## International Governance

While a decisive shift seems to occur in scholarly public administration towards an attention to local contexts, horizontal decision-making and policy implementation at national levels, the same move is hardly happening on the international scene.

The **global governance system** only marginally evolved since it was designed after 1945: the military global affairs remain the exclusive jurisdiction of WWII winners gathering in the UN Security Council, Bretton Woods institutions and their main shareholders remain in firm control of economic global affairs, and the Federal Reserve dominates global monetary policy.

In economic affairs, the global policy has been dubbed as the **Washington consensus**. In exchange for temporary debt relief in a context of global inflation and skyrocketing price of the US dollar, developing countries were prescribed balanced budgets, reduced expenditures, especially regarding subsidies, low rate, and non-increasing taxes, market-based interest rates and exchange rates, import liberalization,

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debt-equity swaps and related privatization, deregulation and the imposition of property rights regimes (Williamson, 1990).

In every place where they were applied, these policies led to **private indirect government** (Mbembe, 2001). By lack of any sovereignty or performance, only patrimonialism (i.e.: confusion between public and private affairs) could legitimize authoritarian leaders, the national economy delinked from the global one (Kvangraven et al., 2021) to become overwhelmingly informal, and the state is only one actor in competition with others for its control through proxies.

Reincorporating East-Asian developmental states miracles in its toolboxes (World Bank, 1997) via a detour through North's (1990) institutional economics, the Bretton Woods institutions acknowledged that **governance matters**. Consequently, development policies will be increasingly centred on topics such as capacity building as necessary conditions for the Millennium Development Goals.

Key concept in this era is **decoupling** (Bratton & Walle, 1994; Meyer & Rowan, 1977): when faced with environmental pressures to do A while B is the feasible or desirable option, institutions do B while pretending and ceremonially complying A. This global trend towards hypocritical window-dressing is at its peak in the contemporary times of Paris objectives and Sustainable Development Goals.

On the ground, the reality of governance is probably closer to the description made by Olivier de Sardan (2011): a saturated institutional space, where actors of different kinds and nationalities, having different sources of legitimacies and rationalities, are **competing for control** of various abstract territories. A context very similar to the one used to advocate for collaborative governance in Western public administration.

## International Collaborative Governance

The IIAS-KSG-ADMIN Mombasa Conference 2024 accordingly invites representatives of national and international institutions interested in public administration, public policy and global governance, schools of governments, NGOs, scholars and students of universities and interested individuals to contribute to a discussion on International Collaborative Governance.

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## Objective

The objective of this conference is to bring together a diverse group of professionals, academics, and experts to share their insights, experiences, and research findings related to international collaborative governance. The conference seeks to deepen the understanding of collaborative approaches to governance, highlight successful strategies, identify challenges, and explore the potential for enhanced cooperation among nations and international organizations.

It more specifically seeks to:

- Achieve a greater convergence between the scholarly fields of public administration and development studies;
- Promote horizontal relations between the West and the Global South, and between the public, private and civil society sectors;
- Provide scientific contributions in the fields of collaborative governance and international governance taken separately;
- Provide a global forum for exchange of knowledge and practices between public administration and development professionals

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## 11. Social Innovation, Commons and Administration

IIAS Study Group

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Social innovation is one of the most interesting trends of the 21<sup>st</sup> century, and it involves many sectors of society. In fact, not only different social actors come up with innovative and creative ideas, but they also build new relationships with other stakeholders.

Social innovation in public administration can be interpreted as an evolution of Public Governance, which stressed the importance of networks, multilevel governance, and collaborative relationships. As a natural consequence of social innovation, new relationships are created between those who participate to the innovation process, as well as those who are beneficiaries of it. In such a complicated scenario, the goal of increasing professionalization of public administration and policy makers, which requires multifaceted and multi-level approaches, has a primary relevance.

Public administrations have started to include external stakeholders and social actors' parties in their policy-making processes, in various fields. This inclusive

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phenomenon regards participation by stakeholders and populations (especially at the local level) in administrative decisions, as well as the joint management of commons.

Moreover, an important challenge for scientists nowadays is the proper definition of the concept of commons itself, whose notion may deeply influence the choice of suitable tools of use and management. The evolution of the paradigm of the commons is also relevant, with the emergence of the “new commons”, such as the Internet, culture and other immaterial resources.

In particular, one of the topics discussed shall be focused on the role of commons for urban regeneration and the protection of the right to cultural heritage, especially in a legal and public policies perspectives

Lastly the Study group will discuss social innovation experiences, stakeholders’ engagement and public governance with special regards to some Lusophone African countries (PALOP) and with reference to the experience of Botswana (special session co organized with AMA Foundation Future of Africa on Vision 2023 and NDP).

The track welcomes contributions in both paper and presentation formats, regarding, but not limited to, the following topics:

- Collective actions aimed at sustainability;
- Social innovation and participation in administrative actions and commons;
- Legal foundations and implications of social innovation in public administration across cultures;
- Definitions of the concept of “commons” and its application in public administration;
- Inclusive governance fostered by socially innovative practices and cross-sectoral cooperation;
- Cooperative management and governance of commons.
- Urban regeneration and commons.
- Public policies, public governance and social innovation,
- Management of common goods and SDG;
- Common goods, rural areas, food and agriculture;
- Social enterprises and hybrid organizations for the management of common goods;
- Social enterprises for common goods and circular economy

## 12. Collaborative Governance Conditions, Challenges and Successes: International perspectives on co-production for public service delivery

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Globally, public sector organizations face complex challenges to deliver public services sustainably, efficiently, and effectively. Some of these challenges emanate from factors in the internal and external volatile, uncertain, complex and ambiguous (VUCA) environments where public sector organizations operate. Collaborative governance arrangements are increasingly regarded as an effective approach to address these complex challenges amidst VUCA environmental factors. Collaborative governance is rooted in multiple actors who, through a collective goal, contribute to delivering public services to create public value. Embedded in collaborative governance arrangements, co-production has been used successfully to deliver public services globally, through the participation of citizens and other societal actors. In the co-production context, citizens and these societal actors play an essential role in defining the quality, direction and implementation of service delivery. Emerging from this, co-production has become a vital governance tool for citizens and other societal actors to be involved in the governance arrangements concerning public service delivery.

Over several decades, the discourse and practice of using co-production for public sector service delivery has evolved in how public sector organizations apply it globally. This is amidst divergent institutional contexts and drivers associated with its use, often resulting in varying degrees of impact and public value. As such, the success of co-production's use during public service delivery relies on, amongst others, different nuances of collaborative governance, institutional conditions, contexts, drivers, and risks. Against this background, this track poses the question: **What are the collaborative governance conditions, successes, and challenges of using co-production during public service delivery?**

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Key questions to consider are:

- What is the collaborative governance role of public administrators to facilitate the co-production of public services?
- In public sector VUCA environments, how does co-production exist through collaborative governance?
- How can co-production be leveraged to achieve public service delivery outcomes?
- What are the drivers for citizens and other sectors of society to participate in the co-production of public service delivery?
- What are the motivations, risks and incentives for using co-production in public service delivery?
- Is there a single collaborative governance model for co-production during public service delivery?

This track seeks theoretical and empirical contributions focusing on collaborative governance during the co-production of public services. Recommended topics include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Co-production aimed at sustainable public service delivery.
- Co-production and citizen participation during public service delivery.
- Co-production and public value creation during public service delivery.
- Theoretical and conceptual lenses for using co-production during public service delivery.
- Conventional and contemporary applications of and developments in co-production.
- The collaborative governance role of the public administration in facilitating the co-production of public services.
- Institutional limitations to co-production.
- Collaborative governance fostered by co-production practices.
- Public policies, collaborative governance and co-production.
- The management of co-production arrangements.
- The co-production of public services in VUCA environments.
- Lessons learnt and best practices for using co-production during public service delivery.
- Co-production as part of the service delivery system

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## 13. The Value of Partnership Working for Building Capacity and Enhancing Resilience

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Joint action in policy making, public service provision and crisis management have become major topics in international public management and governance research. Academics in developing and developed countries seem to have joined forces in international scholarly networks where collaborative and hybrid arrangements are the focus of research. The world has been in a deep crisis for several years. This is compounded by accelerating geopolitical, techno-economic, social and environmental dynamics. Both phenomena are irrevocably changing the world and have an unprecedented impact, especially on the next and young generation. It is getting obvious that collaboration among different stakeholders at international, national, regional, and local scale is required to deal with the complex reality of today's and tomorrow's societies. Joint action – supported by digital transformation and smart infrastructure facilities – is not only needed to improve public service provision, but to create capabilities of solving some of our most pressing challenges, like climate change, intergenerational equity, pandemics (Eriksson et al. 2019; Koppenjan et al. 2019; Brandsen/Karré 2021; Brandsen et al. 2018).

Against this background the aim of this panel track is to bring together researchers and practitioners to have an open debate on governing and managing joint action through both international collaboration and partnership working at national, regional, and local level. For this purpose, the focus is on the following aspects:

1. The panel investigates relationships, interests, institutional logics but also complications among public, private, and civic arrangements at different administrative levels contributing to techno-economic, social and environmental outcomes.
2. We are particularly interested in new forms of collaboration that have emerged to tackle one of the above-mentioned challenges. Among others, this include innovative forms of boundary-crossing activities through digital technology or network arrangements as they are discussed under headings like “smart city” or “smart region”.
3. It is also the aim of this track to address questions about what is required from multi-level governance to build capacity and enhance resilience on an international, national, regional, and local level alike.

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4. Considering the aspect of evaluating, we would also like to ask the question, how we can measure the outcome and impact of international collaborative governance to capacity building and enhancing resilience?

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## 14. The Role of Civil Society for Maintaining Collaborative Governance in the Face of Complex Global and Local Challenges

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These days, societies are facing both emerging global and local challenges that are frequently troubling their existence. These challenges include worldwide pandemics, global and national economic crisis, international conflicts, civil wars and so on. These challenges bring major crisis for nations to provide and serve their societies. In this context, state and non-state actors are expected to continuously engage in collaborative arrangements that help to solve the problems. However, these crises may threaten the basic essence, nature and functioning of Collaborative Governance. Especially, in the cases of conflicts and civil wars, collaborative arrangements between state and non-state actors may face pressures that undermine their distinctive way of societal governance.

Collaborative Governance implies that multiples parties come together in a relatively formal setting to formulate and implement public policy Ansell & Gash (2007: 544). Recent decades have witnessed a number of collaborative arrangements between state and civil societies that supplement the policy process. Beside state actors, at the center of these relationships lays non-state stakeholders with their respective position and roles. These actors can range from international NGOs to local community groups that play major roles in public policy formulation and implementation.

Within this context, we shall explore what role the Civil Society can play to maintain the Collaborative Governance in the face of global and local challenges. The track seeks both theoretical and empirical contributions that see the issues of Civil Society in relation to Collaborative Governance. This track helps us to see and understand the role of civil society in the functioning of collaborative governance across different country and context.

Recommended topics are

- What strategies are utilized to maintain collaborative governance during conflicts and crisis?
- How do state and non-state actors engage in collaborative arrangements for solving emerging global challenges
- Which civil society endures the global challenges?
- What are the possible benefits of civil society involvement in public governance during crisis?
- What is the significance of civil society functions (in terms of democratization, innovation, community participation) towards maintaining and expanding collaborative governance during crisis?



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## 15. Civil Society Organizations and Governance in Africa: Holding Governments and Institutions Accountable

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Like government, governance can be good or bad. Bad government and bad governance have similar characteristics: Corruption, Whimsical and Expedient Decision-Making, Shortsightedness, disregard for the concern of the many. In the same vein, the criteria for good governance would be the same as characteristics of good governance. They include accountability and ethics in decision-making and implementation, transparency and predictability, rule-bound decision-making and action, responsiveness, and a long-term view of the public interest. The public should therefore have a right to expect laws, a fair judicial system, politically accountable lawmaking, transparent electoral rules and an effective and reform-minded bureaucracy.

Civil society organizations (CSOs) play an important role in enhancing transparency and good governance in developing countries by contributing to increased public debate on issues surrounding the formulation and implementation of government budgets as well as in supporting greater transparency of public revenues and sundry issues.

There are challenges, and opportunities in all these. African governments and institutions would benefit from the experiences of CSOs in partnering with them in promoting good governance in electoral matters, sustainable democracy, building strong and resilient institutions.

Well researched papers are expected from individuals and CSOs with experience in holding governments and institutions accountable and promoting good governance on the continent focusing on challenges (weak legal frameworks, government hostility, resources) and opportunities (use of social media and other forms of technology, international support, partnerships etc.) and strategic frameworks.

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## 16. Building Skills for Collaborative Governance in Public Administration

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Collaborative governance in public administration is increasingly vital in today's complex and interconnected world. This panel aims to explore the evolving landscape of collaborative governance and the skills necessary for effective implementation. Through diverse perspectives, case studies, and research findings, the panelists will analyze the challenges and opportunities in building collaborative skills within public administration. In the face of unprecedented challenges PA finds itself at the forefront of creating innovative solutions. Collaborative governance has emerged as a pivotal approach in addressing these challenges, requiring a diverse set of skills and competencies from public administrators.

More specifically, climate change poses a significant threat to communities globally. Public administrators must collaborate across sectors to develop adaptive strategies. Skills in environmental science, risk assessment, and stakeholder engagement are paramount. Collaborative governance enables the pooling of resources and expertise, fostering climate-resilient policies and infrastructure.

Meanwhile, the digital revolution has revolutionized public administration, enhancing service delivery and citizen engagement. Public administrators need skills in data analytics, cybersecurity, and digital literacy. Collaborative governance facilitates partnerships with technology experts and private sectors, fostering innovation in e-governance solutions and ensuring digital inclusion for all citizens.

The entire effort can be implemented and assessed with effective evaluation systems which are essential to measure the impact of public policies. Collaborative governance necessitates skills in performance measurement, data analysis, and program evaluation, ensuring transparency and accountability in governance initiatives.

Therefore, ethical considerations are fundamental in collaborative governance. Public administrators must possess skills in ethical decision-making, conflict resolution,

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and moral reasoning. Collaborative governance frameworks provide a platform to integrate ethical guidelines into policy discussions, ensuring that decisions prioritize the common good and uphold public trust.

Moreover, investment in continuous training and capacity building is pivotal. Public administrators require skills in adult education methodologies, curriculum development, and technology-enabled learning. Collaborative governance allows knowledge exchange between academia, government, and non-profit sectors, enabling the development of tailored training programs that enhance the skill set of public servants.

Based on the analysis provided, our research focuses on the following indicative questions:

- What collaborative governance strategies & skills are most effective in facilitating climate change & digital transformation adaptation policies in PA?
- What role does collaborative governance play in the development and implementation of robust evaluation systems for public policies and programs?
- In the context of collaborative governance, what ethical challenges do public administrators face, and how can they be equipped with the necessary skills to address these challenges, ensuring that collaborative efforts align with ethical principles and the public interest?
- How can collaborative governance models be utilized to design and deliver effective training programs for public administrators?
- What commonalities and differences exist in the skills required for collaborative governance across diverse challenges?
- What innovative approaches can be adopted for building the collaborative governance skills of public administrators?

The above-mentioned research questions to address the key issue of “Building Skills for Collaborative Governance in Public Administration”, with the submission of papers, presentations or posters will focus on the tripartite "thinking - feeling - behavior" attitude, considering the following track main points:

- Organizational culture based on empowerment, purpose, trust and accountability.
- New needs in skills and abilities of Public Administration.
- Propriety and ethics along with ethical responsibilities.
- Communication, resilience, agility and time management.
- Consultancy skills & negotiation techniques.
- Metagnostic skills and learning how to learn.
- Transformational leadership, Coaching and mentoring skills.
- Training paths & methods for civil servants.
- Evaluation and assessing processes in relation to skills and abilities of public servants.



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## 21. Collaborative Governance and Social Media: Building networks and crowdsourcing with public participation

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Social media and collaborative governance are two distinct concepts, but they can intersect and have a significant impact on how governments interact with their citizens and stakeholders. Social media refers to online platforms and websites that allow individuals and organizations to create, share, and exchange information, ideas, and content in a virtual social environment. Some common social media platforms include Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, LinkedIn, and YouTube. By leveraging social media, governments can increase their reach, enhance transparency and accountability, foster engagement, and gather feedback from their constituents. Collaborative governance, on the other hand, is an approach where governments work closely with citizens, stakeholders, and other partners to identify issues, develop policies, and find solutions jointly. When social media and collaborative governance intersect, it can lead to more inclusive, participatory, and effective decision-making processes and ultimately improve the quality of life for citizens. By combining these two approaches, organizations can create more effective and inclusive decision-making processes that reflect the needs and perspectives of the communities they serve.

### Social Media Relevance to Collaborative Governance:

Social media platforms have become an essential tool for governments to communicate with the public. They can share important updates, news, and information with citizens, including emergency alerts, policy announcements, and public service messages. Moreover, social media provides a direct channel for citizens to engage with government officials, ask questions, and express their opinions. This can enhance transparency and accountability, promoting a more engaged and participatory democracy. Governments can also gather public feedback and input on policies, projects, and decisions through surveys, polls, and public forums on social media. This can help to ensure that citizens' voices are heard, and their needs are taken into account. During emergencies or crises, social media can be a crucial tool for crisis management. It can be used to communicate with the public, coordinate responses, and dispel rumors, providing citizens with reliable and up-to-date information.

Collaborative governance involves governments working together with various stakeholders, including citizens, non-governmental organizations, businesses, and community groups, to make decisions, solve problems, and address public issues

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collectively. It is an approach that promotes inclusivity, shared responsibility, and co-creation of solutions.

### The Intersection of Social Media and Collaborative Governance

The convergence of social media and collaborative governance can lead to the creation of more transparent, participatory, and responsive government processes. However, this also brings forth certain challenges, such as managing information overload, ensuring data privacy and security, and tackling issues related to the digital divide and misinformation. To achieve successful implementation, it is essential to have a well-thought-out strategy that effectively leverages the strengths of both social media and collaborative governance while simultaneously addressing these challenges.

Social media can play a significant role in facilitating collaborative governance involving non-state stakeholders. Collaborative governance is a model in which governments, non-governmental organizations, businesses, and communities work together to address complex societal issues. Here are several ways in which social media can aid in this process:

However, it's important to note that while social media has the potential to enhance collaborative governance, it also comes with challenges, such as information overload, misinformation, and issues related to privacy and security. Therefore, effective governance through social media requires careful planning, clear guidelines, and a commitment to addressing these challenges. Overall, social media can be a valuable tool for promoting collaboration and engagement among non-state stakeholders and government agencies in the context of collaborative governance, provided it is used thoughtfully and effectively.

Social media can play a significant role in facilitating collaborative governance involving non-state stakeholders in various ways. Collaborative governance is a process in which multiple stakeholders, including government, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), community groups, and individuals, work together to address complex public issues. Here are some ways in which social media can aid this process.

It is important to recognize that social media can play a significant role in improving collaborative governance. However, it also has its own set of challenges, such as the propagation of false information, digital disparities, and concerns about privacy. To achieve effective governance through social media, it is necessary to address these challenges and take steps to mitigate them. In addition, traditional methods of engagement should be combined with social media to ensure a comprehensive and inclusive approach to collaborative governance that involves non-state stakeholders.

In this background, we are proposing a track to invite the full papers on the following sub-themes:

1. Communication and Information Sharing: Social media platforms enable real-time communication and information sharing among stakeholders, which is crucial for

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- disseminating updates, research findings, and policy developments related to a specific issue.
2. **Engagement and Participation:** Social media can facilitate broader stakeholder engagement, enabling open discussion, surveys, and feedback collection, and amplifying diverse voices.
  3. **Transparency:** Social media can increase transparency in governance by providing easy access to information, allowing stakeholders to monitor discussions, and decisions, and track the progress of collaborative efforts.
  4. **Mobilization:** Social media can be utilized to mobilize non-state stakeholders around a shared cause, such as organizing protests, fundraising for projects, or rallying support for policies.
  5. **Networking:** Social media platforms allow different non-state stakeholders to connect and build relationships. This networking can lead to forming partnerships, coalitions, and collaborations to address shared concerns.
  6. **Crisis Management:** During emergencies or crises, social media can be an important tool for rapidly sharing information and coordinating responses among government agencies, NGOs, and the public.
  7. **Data Collection and Analysis:** Social media analytics tools can be used to collect and analyze data related to public sentiment, concerns, and opinions. This data can inform decision-making processes and help craft more responsive policies.
  8. **Education and Awareness:** Social media is an effective tool for raising awareness and educating stakeholders on important issues and potential solutions.
  9. **Public Accountability:** Non-state actors can use social media to hold stakeholders accountable, promoting transparency in collaborative governance.
  10. **Global Reach:** Social media transcends geographic boundaries, allowing for collaboration and information sharing on a global scale. This can be particularly important when dealing with issues that have international dimensions.

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## **22. Digital Transition for a Good Administration: Platforms and information exchange for a national and cross-border public-private fair cooperation**

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The track aims to discuss the digital transition of public administrations to ensure the pursuit of the right to a “good administration” (art. 41 ECHR), also in compliance with the UN Sustainable Development Goals, dealing with cooperation for a better management of public resources.

The post COVID-19 acceleration has triggered important innovations and reforms, offering new digital tools to address global societal challenges. The track will deeply analyze how the digital infrastructures, the interoperable platforms and the data exchange among public administrations and economic operators can challenge the effectiveness of cooperation both at a national and cross-border level.

The perspectives of collaboration among public administrations through platforms (e.g., for joint procurement) and data exchanges will be examined, in particular referring to the public-private cooperation to assure efficiency and transparency.

The track will be also focused on how digitalization and data exchange could promote good administration in the prevention of corruption and maladministration features, increasing a public-private fair competition in public procurement, fairness in the execution and boosting innovation and transparency in the strength to evolve the best practices among countries worldwide.

## 23. Public Policies and Good Governance of the Industry 4.0 Projects in Africa

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The dynamics of the rapid technological developments and increased pace of innovation have caused paradigm shifts which have been accompanied by consecutive waves of new technologies. The 4<sup>th</sup> industrial revolution - Industry 4.0, is transforming most industries and leading to smart manufacturing, smart homes, smart cities and smart ways of living. Digitalization of the economy and society is generating ever-increasing amounts of data and requiring the implementation of new technologies.

In recent years, the ICT sector in Africa has continued to grow, a trend that is likely to continue. Of late, mobile technologies and services have generated 1.7 million direct jobs (both formal and informal), contributed to \$144 billion of economic value (8.5 percent of the GDP of sub-Saharan Africa), and contributed \$15.6 billion to the public sector through taxation (GSMA, 2020). Beside that, African countries are experiencing the rapid diffusion of Industry 4.0 technologies and are getting involved in the design of robots, drones, 3D printers, connected objects, etc. Industry 4.0 is a real opportunity for certain African countries, already very digitized. Artificial intelligence (AI) and blockchain are also attracting interest in Africa, as they have the potential to successfully address social and economic challenges there.

Several projects on Industry 4.0 are being implemented in Africa. Their implementation, which can have a big impact at the industry level, needs good governance and change in regulation. This is a challenge for any project of Industry 4.0, particularly for African countries due to the lack of the regulation. Several African countries face a lot of challenges due to the inability to set the right regulations and to put in place the right incentives. The policy framework is not well designed, making it difficult to implement the technologies of the industry 4.0 in the industry or other sectors. For instance, in some countries Drones are forbidden. For others there is strong regulation around the Internet of things. The regulations and the laws around these technologies can hamper or foster the implementation of these technologies by firms.

## 31. Decolonizing Collaborations and Public Administration Teaching and Research

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‘Decolonizing’ is necessarily a contested term, as it challenges the Eurocentric paradigm of rationality/modernity and embraces positionality, plurality, and differences rather than assuming standard understandings (Quijano 2007; Bhambra, Gebrial & Nişancioğlu 2018). Bhambra, Gebrial and Nişancioğlu (2018) propose two key referents where there are generally commonalities: firstly, colonialism, empire, and racism are empirical and discursive objects of study as they significantly shape the contemporary world; and secondly, there are alternative ways of knowing and thinking about the world and forms of political praxis (see also Bhambra 2014; Allen 2016; Tilley 2017). Connell (2013: 210) contends that decolonizing ‘challenges managerial assumptions about homogenous knowledge domains and traces the effects of a world economy of knowledge structured by the history of colonialism and current North-South global inequalities. Thus, academia is unsurprisingly a major focus of increasing numbers of scholars, practitioners, and activists, as universities are key sites of knowledge production and reproduction.

Most universities follow European traditions and now use neoliberal performance metrics and rankings that privilege English-speakers trained and working at ‘prestigious’ institutions in the Global North, which also hosts the ‘highly-ranked’, ‘global’ journals and publishers, elite networks, and international conferences (that can be visa-restricted and prohibitively expensive). Comparative work often centres on a small group of countries, based on regional collaborations rather than truly international ones. One such international collaboration between Kenyan, Ghanaian, and Danish researchers working together on a multi-year project funded by the Danish Foreign Affairs Ministry recently reflected critically on inherent inequalities. Aside from their financial dependence on the North, they observed how the framing, methodologies, and analysis was largely from Global North perspectives (Edle et al. 2022). One Kenyan researcher noted that ‘If we look at how partnerships are built, there are a lot of researchers [in Africa] that work closer with Northern than African researchers.

Hountondji (1997) refers to a ‘postcolonial periphery’ of knowledge production due to a global division of intellectual labor: the periphery’s role is to supply data and to apply imported knowledge and methods; the metropole also produces data, but its role is to analyze all data to produce theory and applications to export to the periphery. While this might continue to be the case in many contexts, it is also somewhat dated, and there has been a slowly growing interest in acknowledging a more diverse range of knowledge systems. For example, Wijngaarden and Ole Murero (2023) consider how the Maasai concept of osotua (o-sótúá) offers theoretical and practical potential for decolonizing higher

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education. It designates relationships and is a model for and description of how life functions, both ideally and in reality, and can be perceived politically, ideologically, scientifically, and cosmologically.

Like all academic disciplines, public administration continues to overlook many alternatives, and can be prone to endorsing ideas of lesson drawing, best practice, and learning from governments and administrations in the North, despite their clear imperfections and persistent historical failures in attempting to transplant administrative structures and cultures. At a practical level, 'capacity building' still predominantly takes the form of 'experts' from the North visiting the South to teach or bringing students and researchers to the North to learn.

This track welcomes papers on a wide range of issues related to the broad themes of fostering inclusive and truly international collaborations, equalizing North-South research and practice partnerships, and recent approaches to decolonizing knowledge. The papers can be theoretical, critical reflections on practice, case studies in specific contexts, critiques of or key debates in published research, and/or policy papers, among other possibilities. However, papers should draw upon scholarship, practice, and/or activism from the South, even if focusing on decolonizing in the North. The following list is not exhaustive, but suggest relevant sub-themes:

- Colonial legacies in public administration;
- Challenges in lesson drawing or working towards best practice;
- Working with(in) non-democratic regimes;
- Improving coproduction of knowledge;
- Presence, representation, and participation in international academic networks;
- Decolonizing university curricula;
- Confronting and addressing colonial legacies;
- Resources for decolonizing research and teaching;
- Recognizing different forms of knowledge;
- Increasing visibility and accessibility of research from a wider range of countries;
- English as an obstacle or enabler of collaboration and alternatives;
- Ethical conduct of research in local communities;
- The role of the civil service as agents for change;
- Including and diversifying voices in debates more broadly, particularly in terms of gender;
- Generational changes and global mobility and their impacts;
- Dealing with decolonization as a form of colonial guilt;
- Relationships with neoliberalism/commodification;
- Positionality and relationality;
- Sensitive treatment of Indigenous knowledges;
- This track aims for overall gender balance.



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## 32. Public Power, Complexity and Co-administration

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Identity and its effects in the contemporary context must be read from a pluralistic perspective, taking into account all actors, public and private, institutional and non-institutional.

The theme brings with it that of the inter-nationality of spheres of intervention, in the universalist view of rights, including those that must be guaranteed through medium of power, not just public one.

Intersectionality opens up new perspectives in the protection of rights, implies the adoption of new methods for assessing the position of minorities, and allows us to see what is generally not visible, in terms of rights and the actors who can guarantee the enjoyment of those rights.

Intersectionality provides tools for different social actors to make fruitful analyses of social and legal changes, engage in new epistemological discourses and promote full advocacy.

The explicit and implicit pre-understandings of administrative staff and their interpretations are crucial to the practice of intersectionality in public institutions.

The intersectional approach to equality is less concerned with the notion of grounds than with a holistic assessment of the discriminatory impact on a plaintiff with a complex social identity. Possibility that such an approach may be more manageable for legal practitioners more familiar with the principle of equality as reasonableness and thus less with specific grounds for discrimination.

The call invites scholars, from all fields to reason about intersectionality in order to investigate all the obstacles that stand between the enjoyment of rights and escape from traditional state powers.

### **33. Navigating a Multipolar System for Inclusive Global Policy: Options and Opportunities for Developing Countries**

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The dissolution of the Cold War heralded the emergence of a hegemonic, polar system, often cloaked in the rhetoric of universal human rights and democracy promotion. This claim, however, has been met with skepticism, particularly in light of numerous conflicts in developing countries, where superpowers appear to have fueled unrest to serve their interests. This is notably evident in French policies in West Africa and American strategies in the Middle East. The hegemonic nature of these policies, spanning economic, political, and social realms, often forced countries into compliance through coercion.

In response, recent years have seen the formation of BRICS (Brazil, Russia, India, China, South Africa) to advance the economic and political agendas of the global south, challenging the dominance of the G7 and EU blocks. Furthermore, China's establishment of an infrastructure development bank presents an alternative to traditional lending institutions from the Global North. Historically, developing countries were often coerced into unilateral policy directions dictated by powers in the Global North.

#### **Multipolar System: A New Paradigm**

The shift towards a multipolar system offers developing countries a platform to negotiate and choose, rather than being subjected to the demands and arbitrary judgments of Global North policies. This represents a significant paradigm shift, providing a landscape where diverse voices and interests can be more equitably represented.

#### **Call-for-papers**

We invite scholarly papers exploring the following topics:

- The Role and Impact of BRICS in Development
- The China Model: A Blueprint for Global Collaboration
- Options and Strategies for Developing Countries in a Multipolar World
- Analyzing the Economic and Political Shifts in the Post-Cold War Era
- The Influence of Regional Alliances in Shaping Global Politics
- Assessing the Impact of New Financial Institutions on Global Economic Structures
- The Dynamics of South-South Cooperation in the Current Geopolitical Context
- The Role of Emerging Economies in Redefining Global Governance
- Evaluating the Effectiveness of Diplomacy and International Relations in the Multipolar World

## 41. Intergovernmental Coordination

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Achieving coordination between executive actors of territorial units is one of the major challenges of today's politics. External effects and thus the interdependence of political actions beyond borders of sovereign authority have increased dramatically, necessitating better coordination of decision-making and actions across territorial units as well as across levels of government in an increasingly complex environment. The effectiveness and legitimacy of democratic governance in modern States depends crucially on their coordination ability.

Intergovernmental coordination is being investigated from different perspectives in various disciplines and sub-disciplines of the social sciences. In political science and comparative constitutional law, federalism, regionalism and EU studies tackle intergovernmental relations, but limit their attention to genuine multi-level States and higher levels of government. In public administration, research on coordination in public management produces relevant insights, but in most cases neglects the multilevel character of administrative structures. Studies on local and metropolitan governance, in turn, provide a more encompassing perspective by focusing on the lowest levels of government. However, they do not usually theorize vertical or horizontal coordination. In economy, finally, multilevel aspects feature in research on public finance and accounting as well as fiscal federalism; but usually without considering the strategic or cultural considerations of policy-makers or other actors such as courts and civil society.

However, there is still a serious lack of knowledge among scholars and practitioners on how to organize and process intergovernmental coordination in those various instances. Moreover, there is still no systematic connection between the various research communities dealing with the issues from their separate perspectives, such as federalism, European governance or local and regional governance scholars. The aim of this panel, connected to the COST project Intergovernmental Coordination from Local to European Governance (IGCOORD), is to collect contributions which would help to provide systematic and comparable insights in the institutions, mechanisms and processes of intergovernmental coordination in the horizontal and in the vertical direction, across levels of government, policy sectors and territorial units.

More specifically, the panel aims at collecting comparative evidence, distilling basic mechanisms and causal explanations from analytic comparison, developing new collaborative research questions, collecting comparative evidence on institutions, processes and mechanisms of horizontal, vertical, cross-sectoral and cross-border intergovernmental coordination in a wide variety of federal, decentralized and unitary countries, searching for patterns and examples of best practices of intergovernmental coordination by conducting iterative processes of systematic and structured comparison of the evidence across different countries and across different coordination situations from



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various disciplinary perspectives. The areas which might be covered are especially as follows:

- a) Vertical coordination. A specific look at processes and institutions of vertical coordination. These deserve special attention, tending to be asymmetric in terms of power relations. The relations may be bilateral or multilateral-
- b) Horizontal coordination. A specific look at processes and institutions of horizontal coordination among territorial units at the same level of government, including cross-border coordination. They are distinct from vertical relations as they do not involve hierarchy, but employ other governance models, such as negotiation, competition or mutual adaptation.
- c) Political actors. A specific look at political actors – parties, governments, parliaments, courts, lobbyists and civil society organizations – play an important role in making intergovernmental coordination work. These actors represent group-specific interests which they aim at implementing by means of influencing collectively binding decisions.
- d) Intergovernmental fiscal relations. A specific look at intergovernmental fiscal relations. A large part of intergovernmental coordination revolves around the allocation or distribution of money. Schemes of revenue sharing and redistribution are negotiated between territorial units or levels of government, intergovernmental funds and grants are provided by the State government to its units, and their capacity in producing public goods and services depends on the congruence or incongruence of tasks and finances allocated to them.

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## 42. International Collaborative Governance for Climate Resilience, Shared Prosperity, and Knowledge Sharing

Track presented in cooperation with International Public Management Network

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Mobilizing the resources and knowledge countries need for climate resilience, sustainable development, and institutional capacity building is a multifaceted challenge. Public administrators must adapt policies and processes based on evidence, embrace innovative responses, and facilitate knowledge and data sharing across borders. This calls for a holistic approach encompassing financial, organizational, and institutional settings and open data/government issues.

Papers are invited on topics such as the following:

### Financial and Resource Mobilization

What is a realistic assessment of the scale of additional investment needed (national, regional, and global)? And what should be the mix between national, international, public (multilateral and bilateral), and private finance? How can executive functions such as treasury management and forecasting, budget reliability, debt management, debt reporting, and transparency be augmented to meet the forthcoming challenges?

### Organizational and Institutional Collaboration

How can public administration create conducive organizational settings to foster international collaborations? How can public administrators navigate and manage cultural and political differences in collaborative settings?

### Data, Knowledge, and Capacity Building

How can open data and government initiatives facilitate international collaborative governance? What role does knowledge sharing play in enhancing collaborative governance? And how can we ensure effective data, information, and knowledge sharing across borders? How can capacity-building and development initiatives be integrated into international collaborations to foster skill and knowledge enhancement?

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## Navigating Political Turbulence

How can public administration collaborate with other stakeholders to maintain essential operational tasks in countries undergoing political crises? How can public administrators in politically turbulent settings strike the right balance between advancing reforms quickly when opportunities arise and taking the necessary time to build capacity, ensure accountability, and build consensus?

This call for proposal seeks to broaden the discourse on international collaborative governance by incorporating diverse perspectives and expertise, ranging from financial strategies to data-driven approaches and capacity-building initiatives.

## References

Viral Sovereignty and the Political Economy of Pandemics (Routledge, 2022)

Politics and the Life Sciences "Coronavirus: Politics, Economics, and Pandemics," (Cambridge University Press, 2020)



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## 43. International Collaborative Governance for Sustainable Development

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People naturally hope for ever improving quality of life and well-being in the context of their cultural values and beliefs system (Toppr, 2023; WHO, 2023). It is only these people themselves who can bring about the development they desire and deserve to have. This can be achieved through effective and efficient utilization of resources that may necessarily require the people get themselves organized along their values and beliefs, and engage in a coordinated action within geographical settings forming a community of people and society at large (Green & Mercer, 2001).

Thus, the people set out a system through which it can effectively govern its resources for sustainable development in either ways—confederal, federal, or unitary state system in which every physical and legal person in the society is accountable (Skyline College, 2022). Thence the people establish community/society wide institutions designated as ‘government’ with sole objective of facilitating them with indispensable tools and methods of effective governance for sustainable development they strive for (Barrie, 2023).

Development is all about people and the people are everyone and everywhere; in the private or public sector; for profit or non- profit; intranational or international that the people governs its resources to increase the public and private societal quality of life; one in collaboration with the other. For one to develop everyone has to play a role; and for one to contribute everyone has to facilitate resources. Effectiveness of governance for sustainable development is then possibly ensured with, amongst others, institutional competence, sound policy making, and collaborations (UNDESA, 2018). Lahat, Sher-Hadar, and Galnoor (2021) understand this collaborative governance as a public domain strategy in which stakeholders from various sectors work together to formulate and execute a policy or program. It is an approach whereby citizens, social organizations, enterprises, and other stakeholders are involved in the primary stages of the policymaking process. Collaborative governance is a strategy of sharing discretion to motivate private collaborators to work brilliantly and differs from other ways of getting collective tasks accomplished (Donahue & Zeckhauser, 2011). Hence the UN calls for institutions at all levels of government and in all sectors to act together and jointly with non-state actors towards the same end, purpose and effect and thus address challenges of common interest. In view of that, collaborative governance is where ‘public and private actors work collectively in distinctive ways, using particular processes, to establish laws and rules for the provision of public goods’ that may

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ensure sustainable development (Bevir, 2011). Nonetheless collaborative governance faces diverse shortcomings of practice, and the following are mentioned the most (Bevir, 2007):

1. First, institutionalization of collaboration is carried out on ad-hoc institutional engagements i.e., councils and other forms, which provide much space to consultations, but lack the channeling mechanisms for their outcomes to be reflected in policy design.
2. Second, there is the problem of biases in the representation of interests. Well-informed and organized interest groups are better equipped to participate in these processes than “weak actors,” like unorganized citizens. Sometimes in collaborative governance, policy development leads to the concentration of power in the hands of those who oppose development, shout the loudest, and have the time to campaign. The ones facing the most important challenges have also the voice, or it is rather funding-selective, the one who have funding can bring their voices in any table.
3. Third, for collaborative governance to bear fruits it is important that there are linkages between participation/consultations and better governance outcomes/audit reports, increased budget for critical sectors, well designed and well-funded climate strategies and roadmaps and so on. Traditional administrative procedures and practices are not suitable to facilitate collaborative governance practices. The Collaborative processes are driven out by the traditional ways of doing things. For collaborative governance to bear fruits it is important that there are linkages between participation or consultations and better governance outcomes/audit reports, increased budget for critical sectors, well designed and well-funded climate strategies and roadmaps.
4. Fourth, there is the problem of venue shopping. In practice, actors don’t want to commit themselves exclusively to one collaborative process. When they think they can realize their ambitions via another way (the court or the representative democracy), collaborative processes often fail to enforce commitment.
5. Fifth, the democratic anchorage of collaborative governance practices is often missing. Collaborative governance can be seen as a form of participatory democracy, which oftentimes runs parallel to existing representative forms of democracy. This missing link has the danger that outcomes from the collaborative governance process vanish in the changeover to formal decision-making procedures.

The people are everyone, and everyone is everywhere in the world that collaborative governance is global. Government cannot facilitate the citizenry with all development tools that it necessitates resources from beyond the national horizon. Collaboration in development encompasses everything and everywhere, making the processes from local to national to regional and global level almost impossible. This is why SDGs are reviewed separately with a lot of emphasis on interlinkages between development goals based on national voluntary reviews and international collaboration (usually a number of UN entities i.e., working on education). These are system-wide approaches, and intranational

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collaborative efforts are effective only with international acts manifested in global collaborative governance.

Contributors are expected to insight how these challenges of collaborative governance are explored and/or explained in the international context and propose possible solutions in light of:

- Global/regional collaboration, integration and dialogue across levels of national government and functional areas;
  - Global/regional Risk management frameworks;
  - Global/regional/regional Data sharing;
  - Network-based international governance;
  - Global-Multi-stakeholder partnerships for global development as stated in SDG-16;
  - Centre of government coordination under the global or Regional Organizations;
  - Raising awareness of global/regional Sustainable Development Goals.
- Regionalization and localization of SDGs is quite important. That may require the alignment of SDGs with regional strategies as that of Agenda 2063, the Africa we want

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## Practicalities

The organizers of the IIAS-KSG Mombasa Conference 2024 are inviting the members of their respective networks to submit:

- Abstracts, of 500 words maximum, covering the research question(s), its societal relevance, the theoretical framework, data collection methods, empirical evidence collected
- Panel proposals, of 500 words maximum, indicating a title, identifying the panelists and describing the questions they will address together and individually.

Interested authors are invited to visit <https://www.conftool.org/iias-ksg-mombasaconference2024>. They should create an account, go to the submissions menu and select one of the tracks listed in this document.

The deadline for submitting abstracts and panel proposals is **December 31, 2023**.

Acceptance notifications will be made as soon as possible, and no later than January 07. If the submission is rejected for being out of scope, the organizers could redirect it to other tracks.

Submitting a contribution entails a principal commitment to participate in the Conference, and to pay the registration fees to be communicated later. Please note that the travel and accommodation fees will be at charge of the participants.

The organizers don't foresee hybrid or fully virtual sessions.

All information is available on <https://www.iias-ksg-mombasaconference2024.org/>. Queries can be made at [info@iias-ksg-mombasaconference2024.org](mailto:info@iias-ksg-mombasaconference2024.org)