2018 UNITED NATIONS PUBLIC SERVICE AWARDS WINNERS

The Division for Public Institutions and Digital Government (DPIDG) of the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs facilitates the search for innovations in governance and public administration through the Public Service Awards Programme. The purpose of the UNPSA is to promote and reward innovation and excellence in public services in support of the realization of the SDGs and the principle to leave no one behind, which is at the core of the 2030 Agenda. The UNPSA Programme has grown tremendously since its inception. Key statistics of the 2018 programme are as follows:

- 437 nominations have been received for the 2018 cycle, of which 343 met the eligibility criteria.
- Category 1 “Reaching the poorest and most vulnerable through inclusive services and partnerships” continues to receive the highest number of nominations of 194, followed by Category 2 “Making institutions inclusive and ensuring participation in decision-making” with 111 nominations, and lastly Category 3 “Promoting gender responsive public services to achieve the SDGs” which received 38 nominations.
- The region with the highest number of nominations is Asia and the Pacific with 210 nominations, followed by Africa with 106 nominations, Latin America and the Caribbean with 75 nominations, Western Europe and Other Groups with 32 nominations, and lastly Eastern Europe with 14 nominations.
- 37 nominations were evaluated in the final round evaluation by the Working Group of the Committee of Experts on Public Administration.
- This year, 8 public institutions from 8 countries have been selected as the 2018 UNPSA winners.
Category 1: Reaching the Poorest and Most Vulnerable through Inclusive Services and Partnerships

Asia and the Pacific

Indonesia

Initiative: Reducing Malaria Case Through Early Diagnosis and Treatment (EDAT)

Due to the high malaria cases in Bintuni Regency, the program Early Diagnosis and Treatment System (EDAT) was developed. This program is a collaboration of various parties and partnerships between the Local Government, Non-Governmental Organizations and members of the private sector. This measure will be achieved through the development of Early Diagnosis and Treatment (EDAT) system implemented through the establishment of Juru Malaria Kampung or Malaria Specialist (JMK) in remote areas, repackaging of malaria drugs for convenience among undereducated people, utilization of malaria kits, malaria social marketing programs and integrated quality assurance.

Western Europe and Others Group

Austria

Initiative: Talents for Austria

In 2015, Talents for Austria was founded by the city of Trofaiach and the company Talent Development. The result is a boarding school for 30 Unaccompanied Minor Asylum seekers (UMA) which provides primary care, education (language, culture/values), job training, job placement and ongoing support. The focus areas of this unique project are linguistic competences (German), basic education (Mathematics, English, Social Studies, Science), knowledge of customs and culture (values), specialist job training (for tourism, construction, local and regional SMEs) and job placement. The specialist job training the UMAs receive significantly increases their chances of starting an apprenticeship and entering the job market. As apprentices, the UMAs contribute to the Austrian social system. At the same time, Austrian companies can respond to the shortage of skilled workers and fill vacant apprenticeships.
Category 2: Making institutions inclusive and ensuring participation in decision-making

Asia and the Pacific

Republic of Korea

Initiative: Tax Administration Division

The provincial government has strengthened the disclosure of budget status, revenues and expenditure status, and settlement status on the website of Chungcheongnam-do Province. In particular, in the case of revenues and expenditures, a fiscal information disclosure system was established and 15 primary local governments in the province were linked for the first time. Every detail of the annual revenue as well as expenditure status was disclosed. Concerning the expenditure situation, all contract methods, contents, and parties were disclosed. As a result, citizens can check the budget execution status online. Fiscal surveillance has expanded and transparency and efficiency of fiscal spending have been maximized. The National Finance Law was amended in December 2014. In November 2015, all local governments have mandated disclosure of daily revenues and expenditures through the Internet.

Latin America and the Caribbean

Colombia

Initiative: Cambia Tu Mente...Construye Paz

To make holistic decisions, the initiatives’ goal was to establish a dialogue with the members of the respective groups, and address the issue of territorial peace with special attention to armed conflict in neighborhoods through innovative practices. It seeks to change the mentality of people who belong to gangs, to manage real and lasting opportunities for them with support of other public and private entities and to provide good education and work. In 2015 Manizales was catalogued by the Colombian Cities Network as the city with the best perception of security, throughout the country. This perception is currently the highest of the decade and follows the implementation of the initiative, among other actions.

Western Europe and Others Group

Spain

Initiative: Proyecto de Participación Ciudadana

The Madrid City Council was faced with the challenge to establish new models of governance that will lead to more open, transparent, participatory and inclusive governments. Before the initiative’s
implementation, the Council lacked a channel as well as platform for citizen participation and discussion. The Madrid Government website was created as a channel of listening and communication in which all people can directly and individually raise their ideas and needs and propose public services needed to meet them. The proposals published on the platform have a space for discussion open to all citizens to exchange views, discuss their needs and improve them. Since 2015, 362,702 users have registered and participated in more than 5,000 debates, made more than 21,000 proposals and generated more than 4 million votes.

**Category 3: Promoting gender responsive public services to achieve the SDGs**

**Africa**

**Kenya**

**Initiative: Promoting Gender responsive public service to achieve the SDGs**

The initiative addressed the following challenges i) Few institutions in the agriculture sector have strategies for mainstreaming gender; ii) Lack of designated gender budgets except for bi-laterally supported programmes; iii) Low gender capacity and awareness; iv) Gender mainstreaming in most institutions is left to gender units while other programme staffs are not made to account for gender. The initiative facilitates the integrating of gender and social inclusion considerations, especially women and youth in agriculture value chain development (VCD) in 47 Counties in Kenya. The nominee facilitated the development of gender policy, gender based violence Strategy for Agriculture sector, gender and social inclusion strategy and action plans.

**Asia and the Pacific**

**Thailand**

**Initiative: Integrated approached of comprehensive cervical cancer control**

A major obstacle to cervical cancer treatment is inaccessibility to services. Roi Et Provincial Health Office (PHO) has collaborated with strategic partners, to conduct a demonstration project using visual inspection with acetic acid (VIA) and cryotherapy for cervical cancer control among 4 districts. Women get their results within 1 minute. For abnormal results, cryotherapy can be provided immediately. This method can markedly reduce unnecessarily steps and waiting time, links screening and treatment and reduces loss of follow up rate. This scheme also trains nurses to be providers which can solve staff shortages in rural and remote areas.
Western Europe and Others Group

Switzerland

Initiative: Switzerland Advancing Gender Equal Pay SAGE

Despite progress, Switzerland still has some way to go until men and women are paid equally. In 2015 a new large-scale public-sector initiative “Switzerland Advancing Gender Equal Pay (SAGE)” was launched. SAGE aims at eliminating the GPG in the whole labour market, with a special focus on the public sector’s role of “leading by example”. SAGE consists of two pillars: 1) the development and promotion of a self-test tool, Logib, allowing companies from 50 employees to find out whether their practice complies with the requirement of equal pay; 2) a charter for equal pay in the public sector which calls for regular checks to ensure the respect of equal pay within the public administration, corporations close to the public administration and in public procurement or subsidies. According to the UN-Women Liaison office in Geneva, the initiative is strongly supported by the Minister for interior affairs, Mr. Alain Berset. He participates himself in important events and mobilizes for the initiative. The Initiative has changed the national discourse on the gender pay gap in Switzerland. There is a real momentum across the public sector and an increasing number of cantons, cities and communities are signing up to the charter and implementing the commitments (Sensitization for legal bases on equal pay; regular evaluation of salaries with the Logib tool; controlling equal pay in procurement and awarding of subsidies and reporting on results to FOGE). There are annual conferences where all the signatories and other stakeholders exchange experiences and best practices.