



Second Euro Mediterranean Public Management Dialogue

Portoroz-Piran, Slovenia, 7-10 October 2009

www.med-2009.org

Call-for-Papers

Conference Theme: ***Local Public Services and Territorial Management***

The management of local public services has been discussed extensively in the field of public management research. And it is once again at the centre of managerial concerns today due to the effects of globalization and the need for public and private decision makers to rethink the issue of regionalisation and to include territorial specificities in strategy design and processes.

The aim of this conference is to discuss neither the legitimacy, nor the crucial role of public involvement in this category of services, nor to revive the familiar public/private debate. We encourage instead topics which successfully close the gap between the two spheres and invite innovative management thinking and practice. In this framework, the matter of territorial management will emerge as central to current and future strategic developments.

What services are being offered to citizens who are increasingly involved in decision making? What tools can managers mobilize to respond to performance expectations of organisations involved? To what extent does the territorial view appeal to new management approaches?

During the Second Euro-Mediterranean Public Management Seminar these questions will lead us to reposition and redefine public services as they strive to meet both the expectations of citizens and territorial challenges. The debates will be nourished by the numerous challenges expressed in the Mediterranean area, cradle to the diversity and cultural wealth of its populations and regions. Applied studies, proposing new means of managerial understanding, centred on the Mediterranean countries, will be at the heart of the Seminar. Comparative research and in-depth case studies, will be privileged.

At the close of the meeting we will not attempt to provide a uniform or global vision of local public service management in the countries of the Mediterranean. On the contrary, diversity will be the guarantee of a productive exchange, reflecting the intensity and force of the region and its identity in management approaches. The management of a hospital, the setting up of a new communication

network, or yet again the development of a social network, these are intimately linked to expressions of territorial identity.

Ultimately, this is a question of services to improve daily life, the habitat or life style, transport and communication, or yet again the access to culture and the valorisation of heritage. Future administrators, decision makers, managers must find the necessary competencies and equipment to respond to the needs of populations, in an adapted manner and in relation to economic, political and specific socio-demographic criteria.

Conference Sub-topics for the Proposal of Papers

1- Local Public Services, Territorial Specificities and Adaptation of Approaches

- ⇒ The impact of regional specificities in setting up local public services
- ⇒ What tools provide a spatial representation of management (IMS, performance indicators with a geographic base,...)?
- ⇒ What are the territorial responsibilities in public service management?
- ⇒ Integration of ICT systems would be integrated in local public services
- ⇒ Geographic proximity and quality of service
- ⇒ Costs and means of financing local public services (example: Private Finance Initiative (PFI), Public Private Partnership (PPP),...)?
- ⇒ Setting up a local public services network: issues of territorial gridding
- ⇒ Between normative and pragmatic approaches: the questions of strategic territorialisation
- ⇒ New management developments in local public services

2- Local Public Services and the User

- ⇒ Physical proximity and cognitive proximity: how do local public administrators produce an image of the inhabitant?
- ⇒ What are the differences between user, customer, tax payer and citizen? What place is there for the concept of inhabitant?
- ⇒ What are the means of participation for users?
- ⇒ Local public services and operations management

3- Performance Assessments in Local Public Services

- ⇒ Performance evaluation challenges of local public services?
- ⇒ What are the means and tools available to evaluate performance?
- ⇒ What are the steering and reporting indicators?
- ⇒ Coupling and uncoupling of political legitimacy and managerial action

Overview and Practical INFORMATION

Conference Website: www.med-2009.org

Timetable

- Late April: opening of the Website www.med-2009.org
- Deadline for paper proposals: 30 June 2009, to be sent to robert.fouchet@univ-cezanne.fr
- Notification of acceptance or refusal: mid-July 2009
- Deadline for sending the final text after revision: 14 September 2009, to be sent to gaelle.flouw@univ-cezanne.fr
- MED2 Conference: 9 and 10 October 2009
- PhD Workshop: 7 and 8 October 2009

Submission of a Paper Proposal

Please submit a short proposal, maximum 2 pages, outlining:

- the title of the paper
- the general theme and contents
- the research methodology of your paper as well as the empirical material to be used
- name, affiliation, and contact information of the author(s). The author(s) name(s) should only appear on the first page to ensure the anonymous reading of proposals.

Final Text

- Format A4, margins 2.5cm
- Final text not to exceed 25 pages (bibliography and annexes included)
- Times New Roman (12 points), line spacing 1.5- justified

On the first page:

- The title of the paper (Times 18)
- The name(s) of the author(s) and Institution(s) (Times 14)
- E-mail, phone, fax of author(s) (Times 12)
- Short abstract (500 words max. (Times 12)
- 5 keywords (Times 12)

Administrative Contacts

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