



EROPA

Eastern Regional Organization for Public Administration
Established 1960

EROPA Bulletin

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Postponed**

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Regional Biodiversity

EROPA 2011 Postponed; Worst Thai Flood in 50 Years

Dr. Tippawan Lorsuwannarat, Chair of the Organizing Committee and Dean of the Graduate School of Public Administration - National Institute of Development Administration (GSPA-NIDA) announced the postponement of the Eastern Regional Organization for Public Administration (EROPA) 23rd General Assembly and Conference last October 18, 2011.

Originally scheduled on October 23-27, it has been moved to February 19-23, 2011.

The decision to postpone the conference was a very difficult one that had to be made. As seen on the news, the flooding in Thailand was of disastrous proportions. The Grand FourWings Convention Hotel, the conference venue, was considered a high risk area at the time of the postponement.

This prompted the Thai Organizing Committee to postpone the conference for the safety of all participants.

Though a number of delegates were inconvenienced by the turn of events, it was a situation beyond the control of EROPA and NIDA. We deeply regret the inconvenience it has caused.

Days after the postponement, NIDA played its role in helping displaced Thai citizens by serving as a temporary evacuation center. Even after a month from the postponement, Thailand still grappled with the disaster as lives were lost, thousands were displaced and the economy was adversely affected. The widespread and prolonged floods truly took its toll on the country.

We commend the Thai Organizing Committee for their efforts in these trying times.

HIGHLIGHTS

- GSPA-NIDA postponed the EROPA 23rd General Assembly and Conference.
- Heavy flooding in Thailand may risk the safety of foreign and local participants.
- The new schedule of the conference is set on 19-23 February 2012.

And as we push forward, we encourage everyone to come and join us in Bangkok in February for our 23rd General Assembly and Conference!

EROPA 23rd GENERAL ASSEMBLY and CONFERENCE

*Challenges, Opportunities and Innovations in
Public Administration in the Next Decade*

19-23 February 2012
Bangkok, Thailand



Graduate School of Public Administration
National Institute of Development Administration

GSPA



Fiscal Retrenchment: Challenges, Opportunities,
and Innovations in Public Administration

The Role of the State in Managing New
Challenges: Opportunities and Innovations

Innovations in Public Service Delivery

EROPA Strengthens its Online Presence

EROPA is enhancing its communication mechanisms by being active online and engaging in new media.



New web design of www.eropa.org.ph

The organization needs to keep up with the developments in information technology in order to make EROPA a more dynamic and engaging organization.

Reaching Farther, Moving Faster: Building a Community of Scholars and Practitioners

The new EROPA website (www.eropa.org.ph) carries the theme: Reaching Farther, Moving Faster: Building a Community of Scholars and Practitioners as it recognizes its role in the development of

Public Administration in the region. EROPA vows to become more efficient and active in bridging governments, organizations and individuals around the region in terms of effective information sharing and communication.

New Website Features

Log-in Accounts. EROPA members can have log-in accounts so they can explore the exclusive features of the new website.

EROPA Gallery. The Gallery hosts videos and photos of EROPA activities that can be easily shared by EROPA members using their social networking sites.

EROPA Interact. Public Administration practitioners and scholars will have a venue in the website to explore and discuss their ideas and receive feedback from other individuals through the website's Blog section. The website also has a section where EROPA members can interact with each other on any topic they wish to start.

Online Resources. The Asian Review of Public Administration (ARPA) as well as the EROPA Bulletin are available online. Also available on the website are

information on P.A. Schools and Research Centres, other P.A. Publications and P.A. News in the EROPA region. Links to websites of EROPA state and organizational members are also in the website.

New Media: Facebook, Twitter and Youtube

For a more interactive experience, EROPA is also engaged in social networking sites such as Facebook, Twitter and Youtube. Followers can expect to receive updates on Public Administration news and events as well as updates on EROPA activities.



*EROPA Facebook page can be accessed at:
www.facebook.com/EROPA1960*

EROPA Launches an Online Database of Experts in Public Administration

In the year 2011, EROPA launched the EROPA Experts and Practitioners or EROPA ExP.

EROPA ExP is an online database of Public Administration Experts and Practitioners from among its present and future members. Acknowledging the importance of having the right people for the job, EROPA ExP matches various expertise to the demand for specific knowledge and skills needed in local, national and international development efforts.

Making use of new technologies, the vast experience, knowledge and skills of academicians and practitioners will be made available online to individuals, organizations and governments who might be in need of them. They can search for experts by name, country, expertise or through the search box.

Individuals or organizations will also be able to communicate with the experts through contact forms available in each expert profile. The easy and efficient ways to inform and communicate will provide experts more opportunities for consultancies, research dissemination, speaking/teaching endeavours and others.

For more information on EROPA ExP, simply log-on to www.eropaexp.com.



GOOD NEWS

Membership e-Payment

EROPA Members can now update their membership on time and online!

Regular individual and group members can now update their membership fees without the hassle of going to the bank. Just log-on to www.eropa.org.ph and click on the EROPA Membership e-Payment button. Members can use their Paypal account, debit card or credit card to pay online. A bigger part of your payments will go to EROPA as online transactions have fewer deductions from fees than bank to bank transfers.

EROPA Membership **e**-payment



EROPA SG joins ACB's Dialogue Promoting Climate Change and Biodiversity Linkages

EROPA Secretary General Dr. Orlando Mercado participated in the ASEAN Centre for Biodiversity's *Dialogue for Promoting Climate Change and Biodiversity Linkages in the ASEAN Regional Integration Process*.

The ASEAN Centre for Biodiversity (ACB) is an intergovernmental organization facilitating cooperation on the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity. As part of ACB's Biodiversity and Climate Change Project (BCCP), a project supported by Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ), ACB convened the dialogue/workshop in order to draft the necessary steps and respective institutional and political partners within the ASEAN that would promote the



project's goals.

Involved in the workshop were experts with experience in Biodiversity and regional processes including representatives from the Southeast Asian Regional Centre for Agriculture (SEARCA), Eastern Regional Organization for Public

Administration (EROPA), Department of Foreign Affairs and the Ateneo School of Government.

ANNOUNCEMENT

2012 INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

UP-NCPAG@

PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION AND GOVERNANCE:
TRADITION AND TRANSFORMATION

60

The National College of Public Administration and Governance, University of the Philippines invites you

to participate in an international conference as part of its 60th anniversary celebration. With the theme "Public Administration and Governance: Tradition and Transformation," the conference will be held on 27- 29 June 2012 at the

EDSA Shangri-La Hotel, Mandaluyong City, Metro Manila, Philippines. Registration fee for local participants is PhP6,000 and for international participants is US\$250.00.

For more information, log-on to <http://intercon.up-ncpag.org/ocs/index.php/intercon/2012>.



EROPA Development Management Center

Central Officials Training Institute

Republic of Korea

In order to build a Greater Republic of Korea, the Central Officials Training Institute (COTI) has adopted a vision of serving as “A Leadership Center for a Greater Republic of Korea”. With this end in mind, COTI has greatly revised the training system, contents and operation of its programs while improving its physical facilities and amenities.

The EROPA Development Management Center in COTI has been continuously working on expanding and improving its international programs and exchange activities. For the last year, results show that there has been an increase in the participation of EROPA State Members in these programs.

In 2011, COTI has conducted the following international programs:

- The Twelfth Human Resources Development Program for Officials of ASEAN Countries
- Three Executive Development Program for Malaysian Government Officials
- International Public Sector Training Development Program
- Public Sector Management Program
- Public Sector Management Program for Myanmar Government Officials

- Public Sector Management Program for Senior Government Officials (Paraguay)
- Study Visit Program on Support to Further Economic Development for Turkmenistani Senior Government Officials
- Executive Development Program for Japanese Government Officials
- Executive Development Program for Vietnamese Senior Government Officials

- HRD Policies and Strategies for Capacity Building of Public Officials

These programs drew a combined total of 211 participants from 27 countries, including 58 participants from EROPA member countries.

In the effort to promote COTI's international exchange activities, COTI also renewed a Memorandum of Understanding with Ho Chi Minh National Academy of Politics and Public Administration.

Lastly, COTI's English publication, the 21st issue of COTI Highlights, has been published and distributed to various international bodies and former participants.



These programs drew a combined total of 211 participants from 27 countries, including 58 participants from EROPA member countries.



EROPA Local Government Center

Local Autonomy College

Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications

Japan

The EROPA Local Government Center under the Local Autonomy College (LAC) in Japan has been conducting group training programs for the past 47 years. Since the center's establishment, 530 participants from overseas local and central governments have been able to participate in the conduct of this program.

Group Training Program

LAC's group training program assists participants in identifying the problems of their local government system and finding solutions to improve local governance in the participants' respective countries. In the year 2011, LAC received 11 participants from 11 countries. The program with a theme of "Local Governance" lasted from July 6 to July 15.

Included in the program were various subjects such as Local Government System, Local Public Finance and Tax System, and Policy and Program Evaluation. Informative lectures were given by university professors and high-ranking national public officials. Participants were also exposed to six local governments and facilities such as the Water Reclamation Center and the Life Safety Learning Center.

To conclude the program, each participant submitted a perspective report meant to

consider further improvements on local government systems of their respective countries. Their experience and exposure to Japanese local governance can be utilized as they go back to serve their own countries.

Half-Day Program for International Visitors

The half-day program for international visitors is comprised of lectures and a facility tour. It intends to introduce Japan's local government system and its training courses for local government officials. As of the 29th of November, 2011, 111 officials of central and local governments of 16 countries participated. Representatives from EROPA member states such as India, Indonesia, Philippines, Thailand, the People's Republic of China and Vietnam were some of the participants of the program.

Through these programs, LAC hopes to contribute to the enhancement of local government system and human resources

development of participating countries.

Publications

LAC has been publishing the *Comparative Studies of Public Administration*. This publication has been received well since it provides useful information about the development of local public management in the Asia and Pacific region. The eleventh volume titled *Integrated Human Capacity Building in the Age of Decentralization* will be published in July of 2012 and then distributed to the EROPA member states.

"Local Autonomy College was set up in October 1953 as Japan's only central training institution for local public employees. It has been producing excellent personnel for over half a century since its launch, and many of its graduates have been working actively in the front lines as executives."

EROPA CENTER REPORT

Through these programs, LAC hopes to contribute to the enhancement of local government system and human resources development of participating countries.

Participants on a field trip in Kawaguchi City as part of the group training program.



LAC President Tatsuya Kabutan giving a welcome speech for Indian participants who were part of the half day program.

Classes being held at LAC for the group training program.



The Asian Review of Public Administration (ARPA) 2011 Volume 22, Number 1 is now available

INSIDE ARPA

Transformation of Nepalese Administration: Challenges and Prospects

by Dwarika N. Dhungel

The government of Nepal is currently in a state of transition as the country moves after a period of civil war, from a unitary system to a federal system. Although the intention to become a federal state has already been determined, the actual governing system to be introduced is still in the design phase. This article outlines some of the issues involved and discusses the design process currently under way. The Nepalese experience may have valuable lessons for other systems undergoing fundamental change.

Civic Engagement, Decentralization, and Local Democracy: Some Questions and Issues

by Roger Wettenhall

This article explores the roles of decentralization and local democracy as avenues for community participation. It considers their place in the broad structures of governance (i.e., government, market, civil society) and in the reform agendas of the recent period (with some attention to functional as well as territorial forms of decentralization), looks at some existing efforts to strengthen civic engagement, and speculates more generally about prospects for advancing towards a system that does effectively promote such engagement in governing. The significance of rising interest in the notion of governance, which is broader than just government, is an underlying theme.

Citizen Participation and Public Sector Reform: Is Collaborative Governance the Answer?

by Danilo R. Reyes

The reform of public sector institutions has been an enduring and repeated agenda in the study and practice of public administration. Over the years, several reform movements have offered various propositions and prescriptions to reform the public sector. Unfortunately, the ideal of active citizens' participation in the conduct and management of public affairs has not been institutionalized and remains missing in public administration practices and processes. This article looks at the problems and challenges impinging on authentic citizens' participation in policy-making and offers the model of collaborative governance as a promising strategy to fully operationalize citizen participation. The article discusses components of collaborative governance and suggests that citizens' participation can be legislated to ensure that the inputs and voices of the general public will not only be heard, but will be incorporated in policies that will be shaped by bureaucrats and policy-makers.



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Active EROPA members may also download an electronic copy of the ARPA through the website: www.eropa.org.ph. Get your log-in account by emailing the EROPA Secretariat at eropa.secretariat@gmail.com.

***Emerging from the
Chrysalis: Participatory
Governance in Australian
Local Government***

by Chris Aulich and Sarah
Artist

This paper identifies types of citizen participation in local government in Australia, in particular focusing on the past two decades when local government systems have been the focus of intense reform. The paper considers the extent to which contemporary views of participatory governance have taken root at local level and concludes that despite reforms intended to engage local citizens more in local government activity, citizen participation is only beginning to emerge into arrangements that might be described as “participatory governance.” It also argues that for participatory governance to be further developed, both the internal and external constraints for local government will need to be recognized and addressed. Unless this occurs, leadership may often have to come from organizations outside institutional local government.

**Citizen Participation, Trust
in Local Governments, and
the Dynamics In-between:
A Quantitative Analysis**

by Yu Noda

What are the main factors that determine citizens' trust in local governments? The present research draws its hypothesis from the various factors that influence citizen confidence in Japanese local governments. The analysis reveals significant and exigent results, and suggests that the attitudes of public servants, quality of public services, and citizen interest and trust in national government are influential factors that can lead to the improvement of trust in local governments. More importantly, this research posits that although civic engagement does not promote trust, trust does stimulate civic engagement, that is, while trust produces security, the latter does not produce trust.

**A Kindred Organization
Celebrates its 50th
Anniversary (Review
Article)**

by Guido Bertucci

Introduction: EROPA is happy to recognise the achievement of a kindred international organization that brings together academic and professional members and interests, and which has just celebrated its 50th anniversary. This is the International Association of Schools and Institutes of Administration, or IASIA, which marked this significant milestone at its annual conference in Rome in June 2011.

B.S. GHUMAN
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Anti-Corruption Consultant
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Philippines

EROPA Training Center

Indian Institute of Public Administration

India

The EROPA Training Center under the Indian Institute of Public Administration (IIPA) has been continuously conducting its training programs in accordance with the objectives of the Institute.

Training

Last 2011, the IIPA conducted its 36th Advanced Professional Programme in Public Administration (APPPA). This endeavour is IIPA's flagship long-term training program. Alongside this program, the IIPA has also conducted over 90 other trainings and workshops. In all, 3463 officers were trained in 2011, including 43 participants of APPPA. Nine of these participants were part of International Training Programs.

Research Studies

Overall, fourteen research studies were completed and submitted by IIPA to the respective sponsoring agencies. Some of the research topics were on Public Distribution

System, Migrant Labour, Representation of Minorities, Assessment of Manpower Requirement, Mobilization of Municipal Resources and others.

Publication

IIPA is continuously publishing the IIPA Newsletter, the Indian Journal of Public Administration (IJPA), *Ngarlok*, Documentation in Public Administration, and a Hindi Journal *Lok Prashasan*. The IIPA Publication Section released four issues of IJPA, including the July-September Special Issue on the Future of Education in India; twelve issue of monthly IIPA Newsletter; four issues of quarterly journal *Ngarlok* and four issues of Documentation in Public Administration. They have also

started regular publication of the bi-annual Hindi journal *Lok Prasashan* and released two issues in the year 2011.

“Building upon the vision of its founding fathers, IIPA aims to be one of the world's leading academic centres of thought and influence on public governance, policies and implementation so that public governance systems are more responsive to human needs and aspirations and aligned with human values.”



EROPA in the UN Public Administration Network

According to the UNPAN Monthly Knowledge Management Progress Report (No. 137), EROPA has been one of the leading overall content contributors last October 2011. With 249 contributions respectively, EROPA was second to the UN Division for Public Administration and Development Management who made 699 contributions. The e-Government Authority of Bahrain and EROPA also had the two most viewed news for the month.

UNPAN's website showed a slight increase in website traffic in the months of September 2011 to October 2011. Majority of the traffic generated was from the search phrase “transparency and accountability”.

According to the report, “UNPAN's importance to users from developing countries was supported by the majority of new registered users (185) and overall visitors (342,123) being from developing countries.”

Public administration news, documents and events can be viewed at www.unpan.org.

EROPA Launches the OMG! Oh My Government! Photo Contest



EASTERN REGIONAL ORGANIZATION FOR PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION

presents the

**OMG!
OH MY GOVERNMENT!**

Public Administration and Governance
PHOTO CONTEST



Show us how you
view your government.

OMG! is about sharing moments in governance that are
either *unbelievably irrational and illogical*, or
remarkably innovative and inspiring.

SHOOT, SHARE AND WIN!



**GRAND EROPA
PRIZE
USD 1000**

Join now!

1. Go to www.facebook.com/EROPA1960
and Like the page.
2. Send your photo and registration form to
eropa.newmedia@gmail.com.

www.ohmygovernment.weebly.com

www.eropa.org.ph

The “OMG! Oh My Government!” Photo Contest is a project that aims to capture the interest of both the government and the public in pushing for reforms, improvement and innovations in government administration.

The photo/photo-essay contest uses the colloquial expression “O.M.G.” to connote an utterance made in frustration, disbelief and dismay; or an expression of admiration, satisfaction or happiness towards the government. The OMG! Photo Contest is about sharing moments in governance that are either unbelievably irrational and illogical, or remarkably innovative and inspiring! They can also show “unbelievably hare-brained” practices that don’t work.

The sole winner of the contest will get USD1000! Deadline for submission of entries is on April 30, 2012. Go to www.ohmygovernment.weebly.com for more details.

Images can showcase good practices in public service and/or their outcomes; images citing issues that the government should be concerned about; or images that give citizens a sense of hope for a better future with their government.

BE AN EROPA BULLETIN CONTRIBUTOR!



EROPA MEMBERS CAN ALSO SUBMIT

EVENTS ANNOUNCEMENTS,
PROMOTIONS OR NEW POSITIONS,
GREETINGS,
NEW GRADUATES (PHD OR
MASTERS) AND OTHERS AS
PART OF THE BULLETIN'S
EROPA COMMUNITY.

Email us at eropa.secretariat@gmail.com for submissions and more information!



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