CALL FOR PAPERS

Accountability and Transparency in Emerging Countries:
Governance, Democratic Currents and Change

SPECIAL ISSUE IN
Public Administration and Development (PAD)

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Special Issue Guest Editors

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Proposed Timelines:

- 31st March 2020: Deadline for submission of papers (directly through the journal online submission system: https://mc.manuscriptcentral.com/pad)
- 1st April 2020 – 30th September 2020: Review process and amendments to manuscripts
- First half of 2021: Publication of the Special Issue

Subject to the process of peer review, accepted papers may be published online first in the second quarter of 2020.

* Author/s interested to contribute to this special issue are welcome to share their abstracts with the Corresponding Editor (Email: ramanie.samaratunge@monash.edu) before submitting the full paper.

Call for Papers

It is agreed by all observers – and has been for quite some time – that assuring values of accountability and transparency in societies is one of the best ways to manage change and growth in a rapidly changing world (Bryson et al., 2014; Chu et al., 2016; Finkel, 2014; Jabeen, 2007; Kim, 2008; Rahman, 2008). It is less well agreed that democracy may be the preferred system of government (e.g., Berenschot, 2018) to underpin such management: as Churchill once commented, “democracy is the worst form of Government except for all those other forms that have been tried from time to time”. Yet it is certainly worthy of consideration in a time when systems of government often come under challenge and what we expect of our governments and institutions is a constantly recurrent theme (e.g., Ankamah, Manzoor, & Khoda, 2018). Bodies such as Transparency International seek ways to prevent abuse of power and corruption. Implicit in these struggles to improve the lot of civil society is recognition that good governance, accountability and transparency in public office need support from institutions of government and civil society (McCourt, 2018; Dodsworth & Cheeseman, 2018; Schnell, 2015; Michener, 2019; Samaratunge et al. 2017). What will good government look like (e.g., Denis et al., 2015).

But how is this to be achieved (e.g., Dunleavy et al., 2006)? What are the trends in emerging regions, either positive or negative, that affect interest in promoting governance among politicians and officials, and providing...
accountable, transparent leadership in their communities that also offers deeper engagement with the interests of citizens? To what extent are there deeply implicit values can we draw upon to buttress attempts to improve performance while also maintaining integrity across communities? For some scholars, such as Haque (e.g., 2004 to 2016), these questions inform a wide and continuing stream of investigation, whereas for others the stream is far narrower, and the democratic element is that much more difficult to integrate, though it is implicit in good governance.

*Public Administration and Development* is a unique platform for communicating the outcomes and learning from institutions that have a mission to understand and promote good governance, experience in exploring it, and a commitment to engage expertise across a wide range of contributors – theoreticians and practitioners – who can bring their own ideas and critiques to the discussion. The journal brings together the key themes of administration and development, because development depends on effective administration and effective administration that all can support and approve. It is these perspectives and their associated difficult but essential questions that have been the impetus for an international review.

Monash University, Australia, Sri Lanka Institute of Development Administration (SLIDA) and University of Sri Jayewardenepura (USJP), Sri Lanka will therefore host a conference to showcase current thinking about these directions, especially in the region, and in the context of emerging countries, in Melbourne from 12th to 14th December 2019 at Monash Caulfield Campus. Authors of selected papers presented at the Conference will be invited to submit for a special issue of *Public Administration and Development*. Monash University, Australia, the Sri Lanka Institute of Development Administration (SLIDA) and the University of Sri Jayawardenepura (USJP) all have a longstanding interest in, and a formal partnership to facilitate, the importance of ensuring governance, accountability and transparency in emerging regions. In these realms they have provided leadership, education and practical training, ensuring a complementarity of efforts.

This Special Issue aims to contribute to a better understanding of and increase in-depth theoretical and empirical knowledge about trends in the region in governance and democracy, whether or how they are understood in emerging countries in South Asia in particular, and how they are manifested in reform programmes and other policies.

We invite contributions on the following broad objectives:

1. To critically review the currents in government in emerging countries and assess the degree to which they are democratic.
2. To review those countries in the region where democratic currents are not manifested and to explore what other models of government are in operation.
3. To investigate initiatives for embedding accountability and transparency in the social and administrative fabric and to identify both enabling factors and barriers to achieving this goal.

**Types of Submissions**

We seek high-quality submissions that offer theoretical and empirical contributions to governance, accountability and transparency in the region in a context of democratic styles of government and citizen-centred administration. Articles that critically explore both theoretically and empirically the various aspects accountability and transparency in government, its organizations and management are welcome.

The format of research papers (maximum 7,000 words) should comply with the styles of *Public Administration and Development* ([http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/journal/10.1002/(ISSN)1099-162X/homepage/ForAuthors.html](http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/journal/10.1002/(ISSN)1099-162X/homepage/ForAuthors.html)).

Submissions should be made through the journal online submission system: [https://mc.manuscriptcentral.com/pad](https://mc.manuscriptcentral.com/pad)

**References**


