

IPAA 2014 INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

PERTH CONVENTION
AND EXHIBITION CENTRE
29 & 30 OCTOBER



THE SHAPE OF THINGS TO COME

Principal Partner



SIR WALTER MURDOCH SCHOOL OF
Public Policy and International Affairs



Policy Practitioners without Borders by Denise Bertilone



The Aim

- To utilise the policy-making experience and expertise of the Western Australian public sector in order to further public sector reform (PSR) in developing countries
- This idea encompasses the conference sub-theme of ‘Beyond our Shores’
- It has the potential to be implemented across the states’ or Commonwealth public sectors



PSR in Developing Countries

- PSR is recognised as being important to development
- Leads to better delivery of the basic public services that affect living standards
- Creates a climate conducive to private sector development

Reference

Canadian International Development Agency *Public Sector Reform in Developing Countries*



Policy-making and PSR

- Building the capacity for policy-making has been identified as a key component of PSR
- Providing timely and well-argued policy advice to public decision-makers is a core function of the public sector
- The capacity to fulfil this function is in short supply in many developing countries

Reference

Canadian International Development Agency *Public Sector Reform in Developing Countries*



Policy Practitioners without Borders – The idea

- A three way partnership between a WA public sector agency, a public sector agency in a developing country and an international development sector agency
- The international development sector would assist with factors such as linking agencies
- Roll out the program where it can best assist Australia's neighbours in South-East Asia and the Pacific



Policy Practitioners without Borders – The Idea (continued)

- Linking policy practitioners from the WA public sector with policy practitioners from public sector agencies in developing countries to build policy capacity by working together on a developing country's policy project
- Also acts as a mentoring opportunity within the WA public sector by partnering established policy practitioners with early career or aspiring policy practitioners to work together on projects
- The potential exists to utilise the culturally and linguistically diverse characteristics of the WA public sector workforce



Improving the WA Public Sector



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- The Western Australian Public Sector Commission is committed to developing the knowledge and skills of policy practitioners across the sector
- Contributes to knowledge and skills development and sharing
- Improvements will be enjoyed within the WA public sector and across countries



Benefits for the WA Public Sector

- The Workforce - Professional and/or personal development opportunities
- The Sector - Learning opportunities and increased employee retention rates
- The Individuals - Greater job satisfaction, higher levels of morale and all of the other benefits that are attributed to helping others



Risks and Issues for the WA Public Sector

- Limited knowledge of the legal frameworks that operate in the partner agency's country
- Limited knowledge of the political, socio-economic and cultural contexts of the partner agency's country
- Logistical concerns such as language barriers, time differences etc
- A well designed program will mitigate the risks



The End



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Thank You!