

Press Release

UN Awards and Forum celebrate public service initiatives delivering a better future for all

Award winners from 29 countries will be honoured for their innovative projects in fighting poverty and promoting sustainable development

(New York, 24 June 2013) – The United Nations Public Service Forum, Public Service Day and Public Service Awards Ceremony will take place from 24 to 27 June 2013 in Manama, the Kingdom of Bahrain – the first time these events will be held in the Arab region. The UN Public Service Awards will honour projects that fight poverty and promote sustainable development.

The UN Public Service Forum, Day and Awards Ceremony aim to support the achievement of internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs).

Public Service Forum on e-government and innovation

The 2013 UN Public Service Forum comes at a time when citizens across the world seek better public services and innovative approaches from their governments. This year's theme is "Transformative e-Government and Innovation: Creating a Better Future for All".

Some 700 participants are expected to attend, including high-level personalities, ministers, senior government officials, and representatives from civil society, academia, the private sector, and international and regional organizations.

Public Service Award winners

The United Nations Public Service Awards help identify and celebrate innovations in fighting poverty and promoting sustainable development. The winners will be presented to delegations from around the globe during the high-level Awards Ceremonyon 27 June.

Some of the winning projects this year involve increasing transparency in decision-making process in Moldova, providing children in Peru with ID cards for better care and creating a Government Contact Centre in the United Arab Emirates.

The winners are from the following countries:

1st place winners: Brazil, Ecuador, Egypt, Germany, India, Italy, Moldova, Morocco, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Peru, Republic of Korea, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Thailand, Trinidad and Tobago, United Arab Emirates;

2nd place winners: Bahrain, Botswana, Brazil, Ethiopia, Georgia, India, Jordan, Kenya, Mexico, Morocco, Nigeria, Republic of Korea, Singapore, Slovenia, Spain, United Arab Emirates, United States.

For more information on the winning countries, please refer to the attached UNPSA factsheet.

The Forum and Awards are hosted by the Government of the Kingdom of Bahrain and organized by the UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs Division for Public Administration and Development Management in partnership with UN-Women, UNESCWA and UNIDO, among others.

In 2003, the UN General Assembly designated 23 June as UN Public Service Day to celebrate the value and virtue of service to the community.

#

Background

Follow the United Nations Public Service Forum and Awards on social media:

Facebook: UNPAN Twitter: @unpan

For background information about the United Nations Public Service Awards and past winners, please visit: http://www.unpan.org/unpsa. Past winning projects of the United Nations Public Service Awards are available as iPad and iPhone applications at: http://itunes.apple.com/us/app/un-innovations-in-public-governance/id443218537?mt=8#. It can be downloaded for free as an eBook at:

http://unpan1.un.org/intradoc/groups/public/documents/un/unpan046119.pdf.

Media Contacts

DESA/DPADM

John-Mary Kauzya <u>kauzya@un.org</u> Nathan Henninger henninger@un.org

UNIC Manama

Nejib Friji <u>friji@un.org</u>

DPI New York

Mohsin Mohi-Ud-Din mohi-ud-din@un.org