1. Background and objectives
On 22 April 2016, the Paris Agreement was signed under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change. The new agreement aims to reduce the pace and extent of climate change, and to accelerate and intensify the actions and investments needed for a sustainable low-carbon future. Within this framework, Member States strive towards reducing waste and avoiding pollution with a new focus on what is defined as waste, and what waste management entails.

Waste, seen under a different light, is nothing but a primary source for a new product. In contrast to a ‘linear’ economy and its “take, make, dispose” approach to production and consumption, a circular economy is one where resource productivity is promoted through explicit efforts towards reducing waste and avoiding pollution, by design or by intention. In this respect, waste management is pivotal to the promotion, maintenance and strengthening of prosperity, both for current and future generations across the world.

This track helps to better understand how system approaches can enhance public policies and service delivery through user-tailored and adaptive governance processes in waste management and circular economy. Participants are invited to share and learn about ways in which governments can promote effective use of resources. New ways of production, emerging approaches to consumption as well as innovative procurement methods adopted by public organizations will be covered. Likewise, this track will also shed light on good practices of public service innovation and collaboration methods of frontrunners in waste management and models of circular economy including with focus on multi-stakeholder partners, such as the private sector, civil society and a variety of champions of change in the public sector. Particular emphasis will be given to those who are often excluded from the labor markets including, for example, persons with disabilities, unearthing their role in circular economy and sustainable development. Participation with several stakeholders and creating new collaborations between the public and private sector are very important ingredients for realizing the Paris Agreement.
2. Related SDGs
SDG 8: Decent work and economic growth
SDG 12: Responsible consumption and production
SDG 13: Climate action

Sustained and inclusive economic growth is necessary for achieving sustainable development. Inclusive economic growth and equitable and sustainable development require the production of goods and services that not only culminate in rising GDP per capita but also improve the quality of life for all. In this understanding, sustainable growth and people-centered development also warrant measures for minimizing the destruction of natural resources, the spread of toxic materials used in the different stages of production and consumption, including but not limited to pollution in stand-alone sectors, across-sectors as well as within the entire ecosystem.

The global nature of climate change calls for broad international cooperation in building resilience and enhancing adaptive capacities to respond to its adverse effects. Developing sustainable low-carbon pathways to future development and accelerating the reduction of global greenhouse gas emissions become intrinsically linked with circular economy and sustainable development. A circular economy contributes to more responsible consumption and production (SGD 12) and reshapes business models of consumption and production towards more sustainable and environment-friendly patterns instantly bringing larger benefits to societies. A circular economy also supports climate action (SGD 13) and generates new opportunities for decent work and economic growth (SGD 8).

3. Public administration policy issues and trends

Order of the themes in which they apply to this track:

Leadership and capacities for innovative government
The challenges on this thematic area can be summarized as changing modalities of tendering with streamlining of rules and regulations and focusing on strategic and open communication. Participants will share and learn from experienced change managers in the public sector. Large scale interventions call for courage and change management, especially in public sector. The public procurement processes might sometimes be overloaded with rules and regulations. Openness, transparency, and provision of full information to the public and private bidders support trust-building, and it often requires strong leadership, vision, and open communication.

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1 More information: https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/sdg12
**Transparent, accountable and participatory institutions**
Emerging approaches to networking and partnership-building at national, regional, international levels will be examined. The value-added of developing and maintaining partnership with all relevant stakeholders including through people-private-public partnerships (PPPP) has proven to be the crucial factor for success. Such modalities will be put on the center stage.

**Overcoming challenges through technology**
The vision for sustainable development in Agenda 2030 aspires to ensure that all human beings can enjoy prosperous and fulfilling lives and that economic, social and technological progress occurs in harmony with nature. This track will look into global examples of applying scientific, technological and innovative capacities to move towards more sustainable patterns of consumption and production, which constitutes the bases of circular economy.

**Policy coherence and integration**
Tracing the synergies and trade-offs of social, economic and environmental development goals of the Agenda 2030 towards interoperability in public administration and public management is paramount for sustainable resource management and sustainable development. In every policy area significant progress can be made in achieving a better reuse of resources. The challenge is to find efficient and effective ways of optimizing the reusability of resources in various areas thus realizing the SDGs faster and undividedly.

**4. Key questions for Discussion**
What are the key innovations in this track/in the best practices? What makes them groundbreaking and future proof? What are the learning points?

What are the results of the innovative practices in this track? How and to what extend do the results support the realization of the SDGs? What are things to watch out for?

What is the engagement/involvement/impact of the innovations in the public sector? How do the results and innovations help the public sector to become more effective and inclusive?