

OVERVIEW OF PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION AND MANAGEMENT IN AFRICA

**By Tlohang Sekhamane
Government Secretary - Lesotho**

Historical Analysis

- Inheritance of Public Administration systems in the 1950s and 1960s.
- Attacks on the size and capability of the Public Sector in the 1970s and 1980s.
- Structural Adjustment in the mid-1980s.

Globalization and Public Administration and Management

- Need for market friendly economies
- Adoption of a number of frameworks
- Emergence of good governance debates
- Increased use of information and communication technologies.

What to Keep from Past Influences

- Willingness to invest in the Public Service
- Keep it Public Sector as opposed to Private Sector
- Open the Service up and outsource services
- Address the issue of politicization

Influences to Reverse

- Over politicization and disunity
- Patronage, nepotism and corruption
- Breakdown of professionalism
- Decline of the culture of ability and competitiveness
- Dependency syndrome

Features of African Public Administration

- State dominated economic development
- Traditional model of Bureaucracy
- Proliferation of Public Enterprises

Common goals of Public Administration and Management in Africa

- Continuing debates on revitalizing the state
- Developing home-grown approaches to reform and development
- Reinforcing core Public Service values
- Building proper institutions
- Focusing on policy learning, particularly policy failures
- Increasing the involvement of non-state actors

**Thank you for your
attention**