

in-touch

Newsletter



PAI wins new projects in Albania, the British Virgin Islands, Guyana and Kosovo



We are delighted to be awarded some very interesting new projects in Albania, the British Virgin Islands, Guyana and Kosovo.

Albania

We have been awarded a contract for a project funded by the European Commission to support the Government of Albania in implementing civil service reform across the public service. The project started in October and will run until April 2021. Its objectives are to strengthen management and oversight capacity of the Department for Public Administration in implementing civil service and salaries reform, increase capacities in using different tools for implementation of business processes and strengthen capacities of the Albanian School of Public Administration in

Our project team meets our counterparts in the Department of Public Administration, Albania

managing and delivering quality training programmes. We are implementing this project in a consortium with the École Nationale d'Administration (ENA), France, Agence Française d'Expertise Technique International (AFETI) – Expertise France, IBF International Consulting, Belgium, and IDRA shpk, Albania. PAI Director, Slava Gromlyuk, travelled to Tirana in October to meet the project partners and introduce the project experts – Edmond Miletic (Team Leader), Borivoj Kos (Legal Expert) and Martins Krievins (Functional Review Expert). We received a warm welcome from Albanian colleagues and look forward to working with them on this interesting project.

British Virgin Islands



Funded by the UK Government's Conflict, Stability and Security Fund, PAI is working on a project focussing on public service reform

and aims to support the Government of the British Virgin

Islands with its programme of transformative change and improvement. Our team of consultants, most of whom are based in the Caribbean, will be working closely with a new Transformation Team set up in the Office of the Deputy Governor in the aftermath of the devastation caused by the hurricane and floods in 2017. Our work with the public service will be closely aligned with the BVI's Recovery and Development Plan.

Guyana

Two of PAI's associate consultants, Paul Mathias and Andrew Odell, have recently travelled to Guyana to start their work on a project to strengthen the Human Resource Management tools and mechanisms for the Guyana Police Force. They will be developing and implementing a Human Resource Management Plan with recommendations for strengthening leadership and management; developing and implementing a Performance Assessment Framework and conducting a staff training programme to support implementation of the Plan and the Framework. The project is funded by the Inter-American Development Bank (IADB).

Kosovo



A workshop on investigation skills for the Kosovo Competition Authority



Paul Mathias and Andrew Odell with the Guyana Police Force staff

Our project to support the Kosovo Competition Authority (KCA), the State Aid Department (SAD) of the Ministry of Finance and the Public Procurement Review Body (PRB) has got off to a good start. One of our team of expert consultants led a very participative and successful workshop at the KCA on Principles and Techniques when Conducting Competition Investigations. Further workshops, advice and mentoring will be provided for the staff of the KCA, SAD and PRB.

Tailor-made workshops

We are pleased to offer tailor-made workshops either here in London or, if you prefer, in your own country. We have just run a tailor-made workshop in Cuba on Public Administration, Public Policy and Governance, in collaboration with the Ministry of Higher Education. Our two recent workshops in Montserrat were Promoting Integrity and How Important Is Integrity To My Job? The participants were all from the Public Service of the Government of Montserrat.

We've also had a busy few months with London-based tailor-made programmes, including:

Botswana: A special two-week programme on Employee Support for the Ministry of Land Management, Water and Sanitation Services.

India: We were very pleased to welcome eight senior officials from the Rajya Sabha (Upper House) of the Parliament of India recently. The group was with us for two weeks, firstly joining our international Parliamentary Administration workshop and then attending a week's

tailor-made programme. Highlights of the programme were the visits to the House of Commons and the House of Lords to meet MPs and parliamentary officials and to the Office of the Parliamentary and Health Service Ombudsman.

Latvia: We were invited by the Government of Latvia to design and organise a high-level exchange of experience on Good Practice in Regulation for senior managers from regulatory agencies in Latvia. The group of Directors and Deputy Directors joined us in London for briefings, discussion sessions and site visits to key UK regulators including the Better Regulation Executive, the Food Standards Agency, the Health and Safety Executive and the London Borough of Enfield.

Thailand: We organised a one-week professional development workshop on Leading Change: Strategy, Implementation and People for senior officials from the Office of the Council of State, Thailand. The workshop was funded by the Office of the Council of State.

All-Party Parliamentary Groups (APPGs)

Nigel Peters OBE – Advisory Panel Member

APPGs are an important part of the Westminster parliamentary system, though they have no official role in legislation.

APPGs are governed by the 'Guide to the Rules on All-Party Parliamentary Groups' published in March 2015 by the Standards Committee. It defines APPGs as consisting of 'Members of both Houses who join together to pursue a particular topic or interest. In order to use the title ... 'a group must be open to all Members of both Houses, regardless of Party affiliation'. They also 'provide a valuable opportunity for parliamentarians to engage with individuals and organisations outside Parliament who share an interest in the subject matter of the group'. Part of the success of APPGs is down to the fact that the legislative ('whipping') system at Westminster requires parliamentarians to be either on, or close to, the parliamentary estate when Parliament is sitting and important votes may be called, sometimes at short notice. Having a wide range of meetings to attend makes for a much more interesting and worthwhile day, whilst waiting for the call to vote.

APPGs cover a very diverse range of areas, which can be broadly split into geographic and sector-based. Geographic groups are both country specific (e.g. 'Nigeria') and regional (e.g. 'Caribbean'). Sector groups are very wide-ranging, diverse examples being the APPGs for 'Global Health', 'UK Sikhs' and 'Renewable and Sustainable Energy'. Meetings often have outside speakers. Attendance by non-parliamentarians is at the discretion of the APPG Chair. Meetings are published in the weekly 'All Party Notice', which can be obtained by email on application to: allpartynotice@parliament.uk.

I am the Secretary of the APPG on Uzbekistan. In 2017 I was approached by some parliamentarians who had



an interest in Uzbekistan but saw there was no APPG covering the country. I have over 30 years' experience of visiting Uzbekistan and Central Asia, was winding down to retirement, so I saw being involved with the APPG as an excellent means of keeping an interest in the area. It also enables me to mix with a wide range of parliamentarians from all backgrounds and parties. We currently have a Conservative (Andrew Bridgen MP) as Chairman, with other officers coming from Conservative and Labour MPs and Lords, and also a House of Lords Crossbencher. Liberal Democrat, Ulster Unionist and Plaid Cymru members also attend our meetings. Parliamentarians come to meetings with many different interests. Some have constituency links, others have business and trade interests, whilst yet more cover issues such as human rights and good governance. Whilst the Uzbek Ambassador to the UK and the British Ambassador to Uzbekistan are frequent speakers, the APPG maintains contact with a wide range of organisations and is always keen to hear a range of views on a topic.

PAI launches new website



We are delighted to announce the launch of our exciting new website which we very much hope you will like. You can find us at www.public-admin.co.uk. Here, not only can you read all about us, you can also browse our extensive list of workshops which includes some recent additions. It's very straightforward to make a booking from our website too! Don't forget, you can also follow us on Twitter (@PAI_London), on LinkedIn and on Facebook.

PAI introduces three new workshops

The Changing Media Landscape: Key issues for dealing with social media and fake news

One-week professional development workshop

10 to 14 December 2018 and 3 to 7 June 2019

The media landscape is changing so rapidly that it's essential to understand the new dynamics of social media and how to develop an effective and modern communications strategy. This workshop will cover everything from how to produce vodcasts – video podcasts on your mobile phone – to understanding risk communications and performing on camera for traditional media.



Emotional Intelligence: A critical element of organisational success

One-week professional development workshop

5 to 9 August 2019

This workshop focuses on the importance of people - the critical element in organisational success. It is for anyone who wants to understand themselves and others better. The ability to use both Intelligence Quotient (IQ) and Emotional Quotient (EQ) together is at the heart of successful leadership, management and people in a continually volatile, uncertain, complex and ambiguous (VUCA) world. The workshop will enable you to prioritise areas for development and generate practical improvement 'tools' to lead, manage and operate in a VUCA environment successfully.



The Changing Face of the Workplace: Supporting people through professional and personal change

One-week professional development workshop

12 to 16 August 2019

Organisations are continually required to adapt to new circumstances, agendas and the pressures of increased demands from customers and citizens. Managers need to understand the change process so that they can lead and support staff through uncertain and often confusing times. This workshop will discuss the importance of change for organisational survival and the types of change within your organisation. It offers advice and practical help about how best to deal with change.



***Come and freshen up your skills at a
PAI workshop!***