UN Public Adminstration Programme

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UNDESA

Division for Public Administration and Development Management
UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs

The Way Forward:

Division for Public Administration & Development Management
UNDESA

By Ms. Haiyan Qian
Director, DPADM/UNDESA

8TH Session of the Committee of Experts on Public Administration
UNHQ, New York, 1 April 2009

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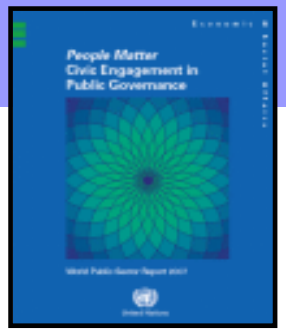
Major Achievements

CEPA
From GROUP to a COMMITTEE

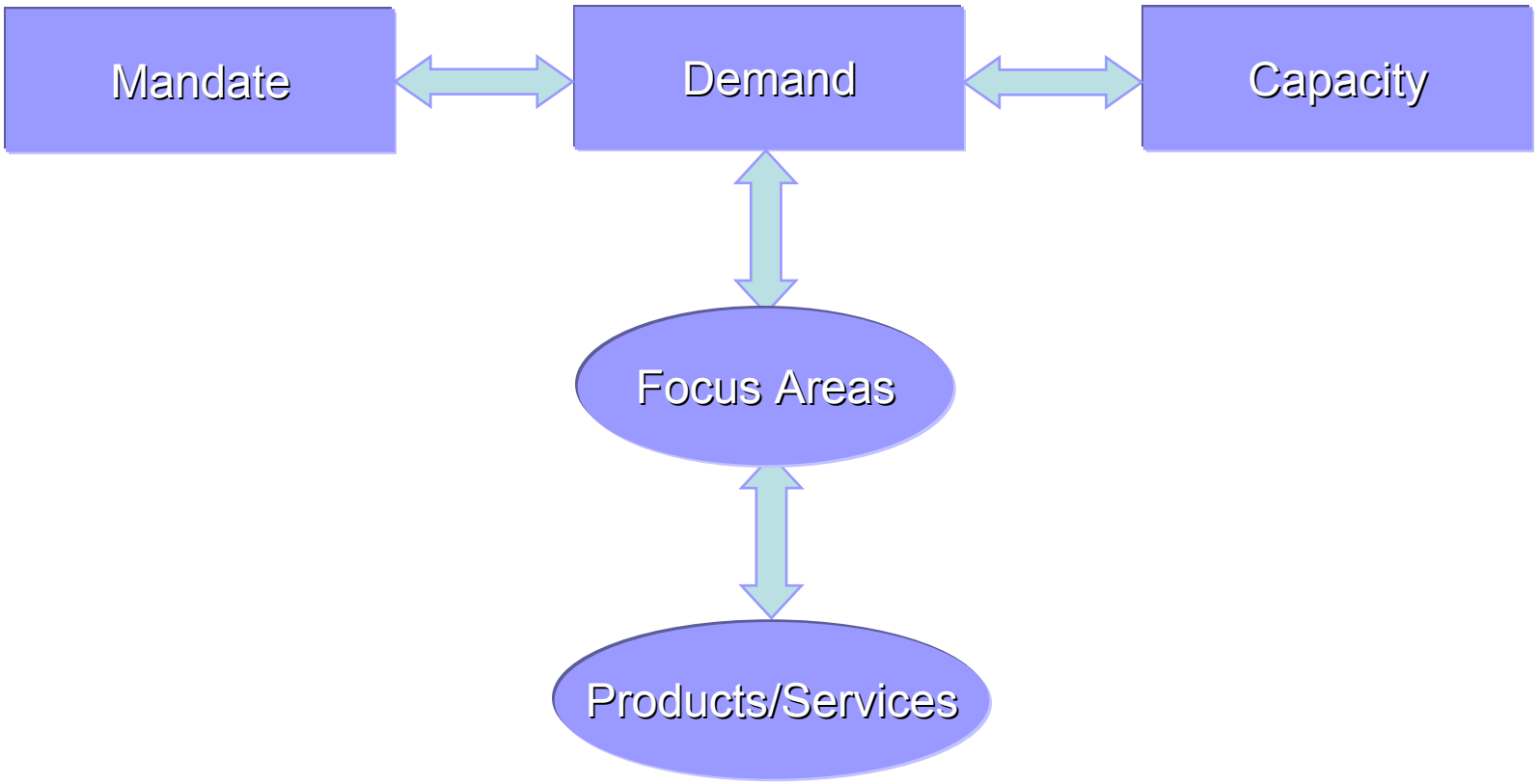
UNPSD/PSA
Public Service Day &Awards



UNPAN
Public Administration Network

UNPAN

The Way Forward



MANDATE

Main Purpose

Our Mandate

A/RES/246/3 of 4 December 1948

GENERAL ASSEMBLY RESOLUTIONS	
50/225	19 April 1996
56/213	21 December 2001
57/277	20 December 2002
58/231	23 December 2003
59/55	2 December 2004
60/34	30 November 2005
2007/38	4 October 2007

The resolutions cover wide range of themes In PA

E/RES/1199 of 24 May 1967

ECOSOC RESOLUTIONS	
2001/45	10 January 2002
2002/40	19 December 2002
2003/60	25 July 2003
2005/3	31 March 2005
2005/55	21 October 2005
2006/47	28 July 2006
2007/38	4 October 2007
2008/32	15 August 2008

A/RES/63/202 of 19 December 2008

E/2008/32 of 15 August 2008

*Para.2, page 3

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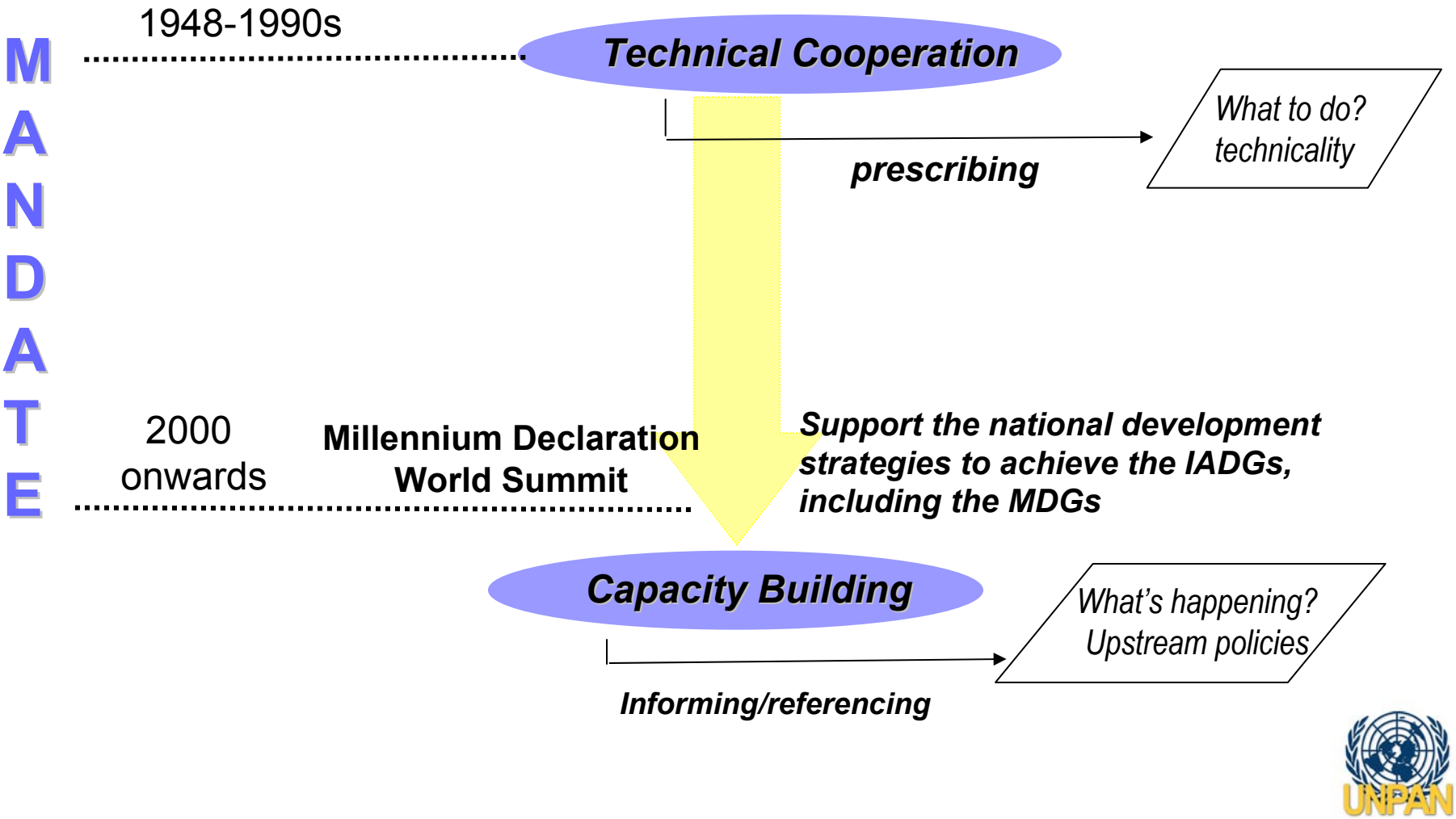
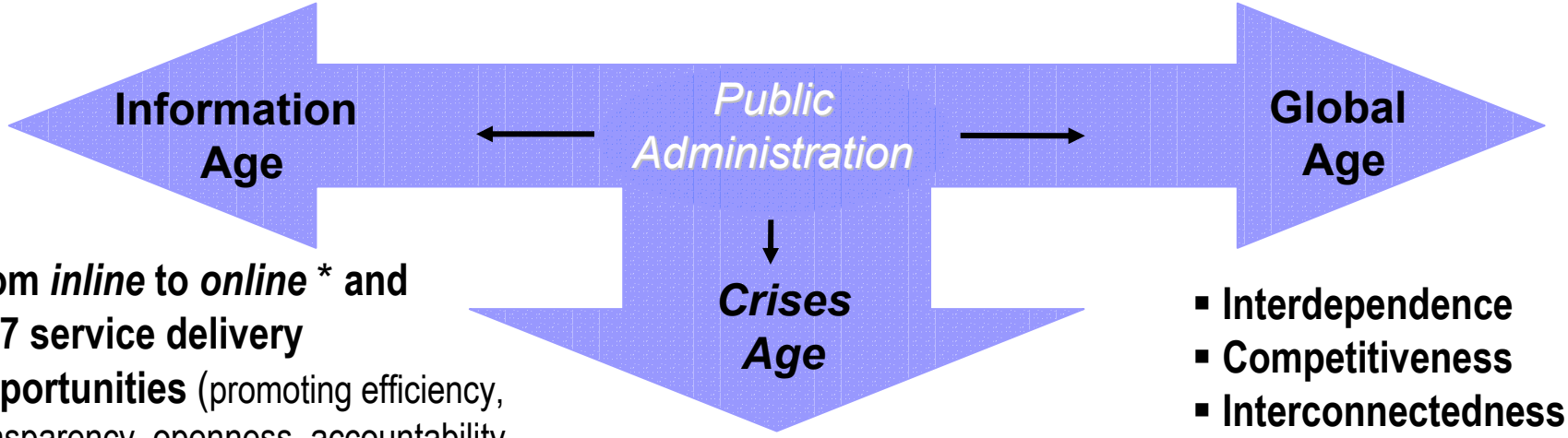
Path-Dependent Public Administration Priorities



DEMAND

New Issues

New Issues



- **From *inline* to *online* * and 24/7 service delivery**
- **Opportunities** (promoting efficiency, transparency, openness, accountability, participation, innovation, networking and collaboration, etc.),
- **Challenges** (digital-divide, security, privacy, cyber-crime, lack of awareness or capacity to deal with IT applications, IP,etc.)

- **Food security**
- **Financial turmoil**
- **Energy shortages**
- **Climate change**

- **Interdependence**
- **Competitiveness**
- **Interconnectedness**
- **Glocalization***

*Prof. Jerry Mechling, at John F. Kennedy School of Government, Harvard University.

***Glocalization** is a blend of the global and the local (*The Oxford Dictionary of New Words*, 1991:134)
The term refers to the simultaneity of globalization with the increasing importance of local values and practices.
See Khondeker (2004).

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CAPACITY

Niche & Challenges

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Our Niche

What do the others do?

	Main Focus	
WB		**Economic development** Governance in the public sector
UNDP		**Human development** Democratic systems and human rights
OECD		**Economic prosperity (Developed countries)** Public management—budgeting, employment, finance

What do we do?

DPADM/UNDESA
Public administration development Building capacity for better public service

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Our Challenges

- Making best use of our limited ***resources*** and ***capacity***
- Addressing the ***multidisciplinary nature*** of public administration
- Establishing the ***brand name*** in terms of expertise and products
- Connecting the stand-alone activities and products into a ***coherent whole*** to make impact

FOCUS AREAS

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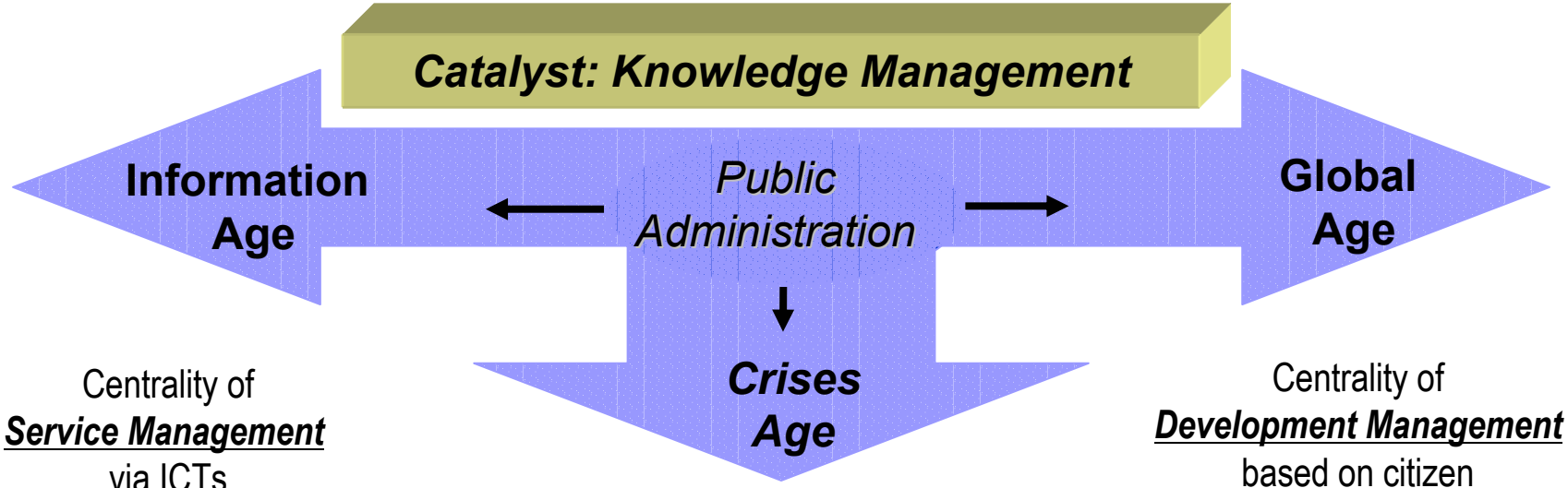
New Issues & New Responses



Centrality of
Service Management
via ICTs

Centrality of
Capacity Management
including institutions and human resources

Centrality of
Development Management
based on citizen engagement

Theme 1
Micro-level / Front end

What can we do to better respond to the new ways for PSD?

Theme 2
Meso-level / Back end

What can we do to have enabling leaders & performing institutions?

Theme 3
Macro-level / Context

How can we harness public administration into development?

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Public Service Management

In the Information Age

Micro-level & Front-end

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Public Service Management in the Information Age

Information Age:

Shift from ***inline*** to ***online*** systems of 24/7 service delivery:

- Reduce cost and enhance efficiency
- Enhance simplified, transparent and accountable operational process
- Empower citizens to seek and access information and engage them in policy-making process

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Capacity Management in the Crises Age:

HRs & Institutions

Meso-level & Back-end

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Human Resources and Institutions in Public Management

Age of Crises

●Food security ● Financial turmoil ● Energy shortages ● Climate change

To effectively respond to the challenges, there is a dire need for:

HRM: Expert bureaucracies populated by policy-motivated agents

Institution building: Performing institutions that are efficient and effective, transparent and accountable, participatory and innovative

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Development Management in the Age of Globalization:

Participatory Public Administration

Macro-level & Context

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Inclusive and Participatory Public Administration for Development

Age of Globalization

- Interconnectedness, competitiveness, digitalization, globalization
- Merging rational strategizing with people-centered policy-making
- Internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals

To adapt, need to:

- Know what is participatory governance and how it works
- Show concrete linkages and inputs of PA to the IADGs, the MDGs.

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PRODUCTS/SERVICES

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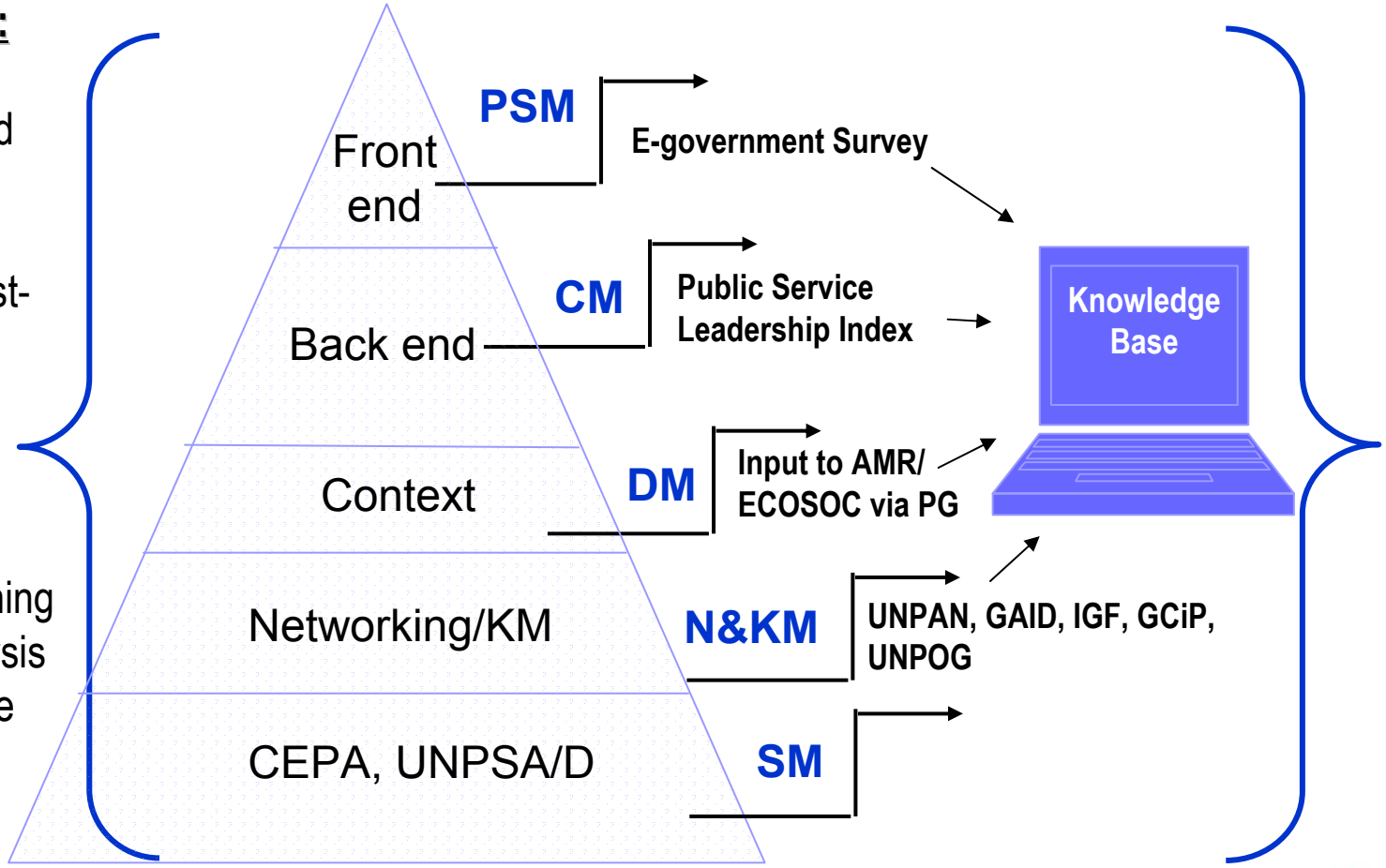
Products/Services

Target Countries:

1. Least developed
2. Economies in transition
3. Conflict and post-conflict
4. Developing

Work Modalities:

1. Advocacy/Learning
2. Research/Analysis
3. Advisory Service
4. Training



PSM: Public Service Management; **CM:** Capacity Management; **DM:** Development Management
N&KM: Network and Knowledge Management; **SM:** Servicing Management

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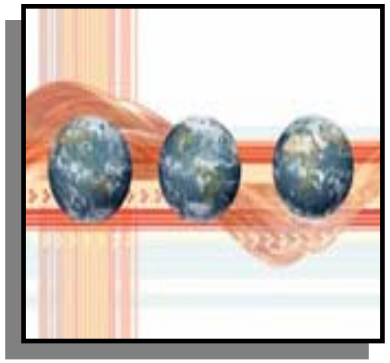
From Connectivity to Empowerment



Connectivity

Open and loose framework of multi-stakeholder networking / information-sharing tool

How does DPADM contribute to development at large?

Empowerment

Structured knowledge-base of governance actors to create knowledge and to empower

How does DPADM contribute to each MDG specifically?

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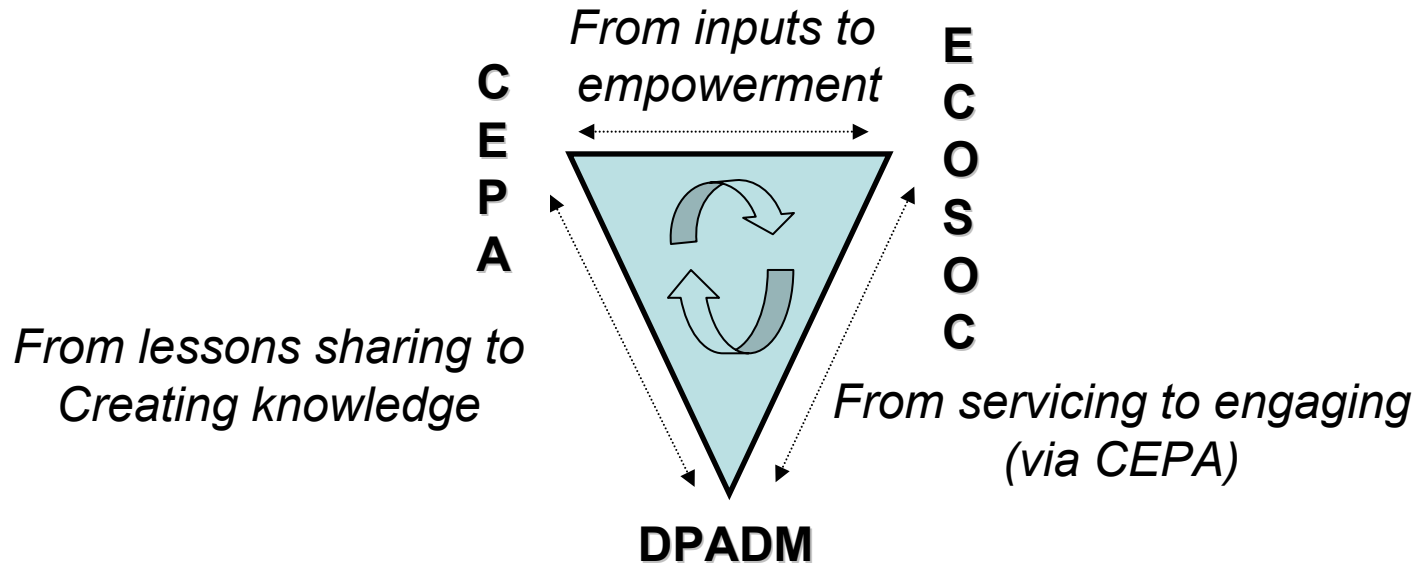
Our Change to Bring Success

- Focus on fewer themes and prioritize activities based on mandate, demand and capacity
- Emphasize our niche/comparative advantage
- Concentrate on results-based programs and activities and integrated products
- Strengthen our research pillar--along with the 'advocacy' and 'advisory' pillars
- Integrate the normative with the analytical and operational work
- Link public administration closer with IADGs/MDGs through intergovernmental platforms (GA, ECOSOC and CEPA)
- Assist the MS in capacity-building by developing more "how to" products (i.e., toolkits, online training, guidelines and manuals, etc.)
- Further work with UNPAN and other partners to develop joint products
- Improve internal work process, and internal and external information sharing and learning through building a Divisional knowledge base via UNPAN tools
- Do what we preach

Optimizing Our Intergovernmental Work

1. How to better engage CEPA's expertise in the work of the Division?
2. How to better serve the Committee?
3. How best to contribute to ECOSOC?



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Optimizing Our Intergovernmental Work

How, as the DPADM, can we *serve you* better?

- Are there things that we can do better or differently to increase synergy?
- Should we forego certain practices or institute new ones towards energizing and uplifting our work to better respond to your needs?

How, as the DPADM, can we *capitalize on your expertise* more effectively?

- Can we reconfigure our activities, plans and programs at the Division so as to engage you more effectively?
- Can we engage you in giving advice to specific work or products that DPADM does?
- Can we think of concrete products in view of the urging need to put public administration to the center of the developmental agenda more boldly?

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Thank you for your attention.