

# SAPA INAUGURAL NEWSLETTER

Section on African Public Administration  
American Society for Public Administration

June 2021 | Issue 1

**Welcome from Madam Chair Dr. Rym Kaki**



I hope to find you all in good health and spirit. It is with honor and immense pleasure that I have accepted in March 2019 to lead the newly formed Section on African Public Administration (SAPA) under the umbrella of the American Society of Public Administration (ASPA). SAPA was officially inaugurated in March 2018, at Denver, Colorado. It came into existence to meet a long held collective dream, that is to create a distinct forum led by a dedicated circle of African Diaspora, American, and global academics with a shared goal of exploring the 55 African countries' most pressing public and nonprofit sector governance, management, and leadership issues. In the span of three years, and thanks to its members' collective mobilization and engaged teamwork, SAPA doubled its membership, diversified its advisory board governance, mainstreamed its internal processes, organized into specialized subcommittees, each working to further SAPA's strategic goals and expand its outreach in Africa and globally.

We held our first Round Table on "African Development Governance: Lessons Learned" in Washington D.C. in March 2019 under ASPA annual conference in collaboration with GW Elliot School of Public Affairs and USC Sol Price School of Public Policy IPPAM Program, bringing together scholars, political officials, think tank researchers and students to weigh in on a rich palette of hot-button public sector governance issues facing selected African countries. In 2020 and due to Covid-19 pandemic disruptions, SAPA pivoted online and conducted its first ZOOM-powered Symposium on "Vision 2020 for Africa's Development Transformation: Challenges and Opportunities" captivating the attention of a globally scattered audience over fresh- and forward-looking conversations about public sector governance, multisectoral collaboration, community participation, ethical leadership, and sustainable development.

Our SAPA website has had a facelift. We successfully brokered a collaborative agreement with the African Association for Public Administration and Management (AAPAM) as well as with the Editorial Board of the African Journal of Public Administration and Management (AJPAM), with the goal of jointly organizing continent-based symposia, conferences and publications. The partnership is facilitated by the already established MOU binding ASPA with AAPAM. In a nutshell, despite the disruptions experienced since the pandemic began, SAPA has demonstrated endurance and creativity. "It always seems impossible until it's done," as Nelson Mandela once said.

Many people must be recognized for their valuable efforts as we launched SAPA and for their continued support of our emergent organization. They are: Dr. Gedeon Mudacumura, Dr. Peter Haruna, Dr. Shyaka Anastase, Dr. Susan Gooden, Dr. Bakry Elmedni, Ms. Sombo Chunda, Dr. Amina Sillah, Dr. Genevieve Meyers, Dr. Jennifer Brinkerhoff, Dr. Jessie Mabutas, Dr. Atta Ceesay, Dr. Kalu Kalu, Dr. Shamsul Haque, Dr. Joyce Mann, Dr. Aziza Zemrani, Dr. Kim Moloney, Dr. Bok Gyo Jeong, Dr. Simone Martin-Howard, Dr. Deborah Trent, Dr. David Bell, Dr. Frank Ohemang, Mr Qiao Wu and Ms. Fengxue Zhou. We are forever indebted for generous contributions and belief in SAPA's vision.

Since SAPA's founding, it has been rewarding to witness the rapid expansion of the SAPA circle of members and friends. Our new supporting partners from the African continent and globally include: APPAM and its Secretary General Dr. George Scott; Dr. Ukertor Moti, Editor in Chief of AJPAM; and Dr. Najat Zarrouk, Director of the African Local Governments Academy; Dr. Sofiane Sahraoui, Director of the International Institute of Administrative Studies; and Dr. John Mary Kauzya, Chief of UN-DESA Public Service Innovation Branch. Special thanks go to ASPA leadership — Dr. Kendra Stewart, Dr. Allan Rosenbaum, Mr. William Shields and Ms. Karen Garrett — for their creative facilitation and guidance. Finally, I would like to extend a warm welcome the newest section members.

Inside this issue: [Mission, Executive Team, Committees, Section Events, Member News](#) ~ Find us at: <http://thesapa.org/>

## SAPA INAUGURAL NEWSLETTER

### MISSION

SAPA's mission is to advance the science, processes, and art of public administration on the African continent, and the equality of opportunity of all persons through public administration.

### SAPA Executive Team

Chair:

Rym Kaki, Ph.D.

Associate Professor

[rym@price.usc.edu](mailto:rym@price.usc.edu)



Vice Chair:

Gedeon Mudacumura, Ph.D.

CEO, Interdisciplinary Action

Research Centers

[gmudacumura@iarcpa.org](mailto:gmudacumura@iarcpa.org)



Treasurer:

Bakry Elmedni, Ph.D.

Associate Professor

[bakry.elmedni@liu.edu](mailto:bakry.elmedni@liu.edu)



Secretary:

Simone Martin-Howard, Ph.D.

Assistant Professor

[Simone.Martin@liu.edu](mailto:Simone.Martin@liu.edu)



*The SAPA Executive Team and Committees look forward to engaging with members in disseminating your research, commentaries, and the latest, most salient news on African public administration.*

## SAPA INAUGURAL NEWSLETTER

### Committees

#### Academic Affairs Committee:

Gedeon Mudacumura (Chair) - [gmudacumura@iarcpa.org](mailto:gmudacumura@iarcpa.org); Rym Kaki - [rym@price.usc.edu](mailto:rym@price.usc.edu); Bok Gyo Jeong - [bjjeong@kean.edu](mailto:bjjeong@kean.edu); David Bell - [dvabell@iu.edu](mailto:dvabell@iu.edu); Simone Martin-Howard - [Simone.martin@liu.edu](mailto:Simone.martin@liu.edu); Frank Ohemeng - [frank.ohemeng@concordia.ca](mailto:frank.ohemeng@concordia.ca); Ezechiel Sentama – [esentama@gmail.com](mailto:esentama@gmail.com)

#### Practitioners Capacity Building Committee:

Jessie Rose Mabutas (Chair) - [jessierosemabutas@hotmail.com](mailto:jessierosemabutas@hotmail.com); Gedeon Mudacumura - [gmudacumura@iarcpa.org](mailto:gmudacumura@iarcpa.org); Papa Tandia - [Tandiapapa@gmail.com](mailto:Tandiapapa@gmail.com); Herbert Robinson - [H.Robinson@acbf-pact.org](mailto:H.Robinson@acbf-pact.org); Atta Ceesay - [ceesayaa@buffalostate.edu](mailto:ceesayaa@buffalostate.edu)

#### Marketing & Membership Committee:

Genevieve Meyers (Chair) - [meyersge@udmercy.edu](mailto:meyersge@udmercy.edu); Sombo Chunda - [chundasm@mymail.vcu.edu](mailto:chundasm@mymail.vcu.edu); Thomas Morelli - [thomasmorelli@att.net](mailto:thomasmorelli@att.net); Funmi Ebiwonjumi - [febiwonjumi@yahoo.com](mailto:febiwonjumi@yahoo.com); James Agbodzakey - [jamesagbodzakey@gmail.com](mailto:jamesagbodzakey@gmail.com); Fai Cheleuka - [fai@freevillainc.com](mailto:fai@freevillainc.com)

#### Communication, Newsletter & Website Committee:

Deborah Trent (Chair & newsletter editor) - [dtrent@civilstrategies.net](mailto:dtrent@civilstrategies.net); Rym Kaki – [rym@price.usc.edu](mailto:rym@price.usc.edu); Terrence Alladin - [alladin@lvc.edu](mailto:alladin@lvc.edu); Rosa Krewson - [rosac@vt.edu](mailto:rosac@vt.edu); Merlene-Patrice Bourdeau-Quispe - [mquis006@fiu.edu](mailto:mquis006@fiu.edu); Oge Agim - [oagim001@odu.edu](mailto:oagim001@odu.edu)

#### Fundraising Committee:

Bakry Elmedni (Chair) - [bakry.elmedni@liu.edu](mailto:bakry.elmedni@liu.edu); Gedeon Mudacumura - [gmudacumura@iarcpa.org](mailto:gmudacumura@iarcpa.org); Cheryl Nathaniel - [nathanic@nida.nih.gov](mailto:nathanic@nida.nih.gov); Harvey White - [hlw@udel.edu](mailto:hlw@udel.edu); Tricia Diamond – [tdiamond@kingcounty.gov](mailto:tdiamond@kingcounty.gov)

#### Global Outreach Committee:

Aminata Sillah (Chair) - [asillah@towson.edu](mailto:asillah@towson.edu); Rym Kaki - [rym@price.usc.edu](mailto:rym@price.usc.edu); Jessie Rose Mabutas - [jessierosemabutas@hotmail.com](mailto:jessierosemabutas@hotmail.com); Thomas Morelli - [thomasmorelli@att.net](mailto:thomasmorelli@att.net); Peter Haruna - [pharuna@tamiu.edu](mailto:pharuna@tamiu.edu); Mohamed Abdel-Moneim - [moneim@feps.edu.eg](mailto:moneim@feps.edu.eg)

# SAPA INAUGURAL NEWSLETTER

## 2018 Section Events

### COME JOIN US IN CELEBRATING THE LAUNCH OF THE NEW SECTION ON AFRICAN PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION (SAPA)

**Ushering in the Next Frontier of Public Administration in Africa**  
Sunday, March 11<sup>th</sup> 2018, 8:30 – 10:00 AM, Mineral Hall C Room  
Hyatt Regency Hotel, Denver, Colorado

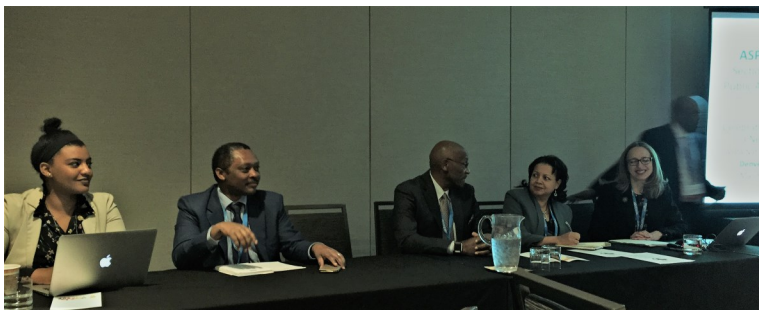


<b>Gedeon MUDACUMURA</b>	<b>Moderator, Welcome and Opening Remarks</b> Professor at Cheyney University of Pennsylvania, U.S.
<b>Susan GOODEN</b>	<b>ASPA/SAPA Contributions to African Public Administration</b> ASPA Past President & Professor at Virginia Commonwealth University, U.S.
<b>Rym KAKI</b>	<b>SAPA's Role in Facilitating Int'l. &amp; Interdisciplinary Research</b> A. Associate Professor at University of Southern California, U.S.
<b>Anastase SHYAKA</b>	<b>African 2063 Agenda: Overview of Current Strategic Goals</b> Professor and CEO of Rwandan Governance Board
<b>Ibrahim MAYAKI</b>	<b>New Partnerships for Africa's Development: Lessons Learned</b> CEO of New Partnership for Africa's Development, Ethiopia
<b>Adebayo OLUKOSHI</b>	<b>Africa Current Governance Challenges and Opportunities</b> Institute for Democracy and Elections Assistance, Ethiopia
<b>Rediate TEKESTE</b>	<b>African Diaspora and Social Entrepreneurship</b> Founder and Director, Ethiopian Diaspora Fellowship, U.S.

# SAPA INAUGURAL NEWSLETTER

## 2018 Section Events

Section  
Launch



Panel



Business Meeting

# SAPA INAUGURAL NEWSLETTER

## 2019 Section Event

### SAPA-GW Roundtable: “African Development Governance: Lessons Learned”



# SAPA INAUGURAL NEWSLETTER

## 2020 Section Event

### ~ First Virtual Symposium ~



### SAPA Virtual Symposium Program

### Vision 2020 for Africa's Development Transformation: Challenges & Opportunities

American Society for Public Administration (ASPA) Annual Conference  
Section on African Public Administration (SAPA)

**THE REALITY FOR CAMEROONIANS SEEKING ASYLUM ON THE BORDER**

- They were having problems getting on the relevant list.
- African migrants are more likely to be treated as adults in the asylum and refugee system.
- Majority are being sent to very remote areas of ICE detention centers in Louisiana.

**CHALLENGES OUR YOUTH ARE FACING**

- Lack of quality education: literacy rate for young adults in Sub-Saharan Africa (75%), North Africa (95%), and South Africa (99%)
- Lack of political engagement
- Lack of (quality) jobs or high paying jobs
- Little or no access to technology, communications, skill development and mobility either within or out of their respective countries
- Exposure to corrupt political leadership and political instability

**Social Finance (SF) Innovations & Poverty Reduction in Africa: Managing SF-NGOs Accountability Capacity: Lessons Learnt**

**Rym KAKI, Ph.D.** (USC - Sol Price School of Public Policy)  
ASPA- Section on African Public Administration Symposium  
Vision 2020 for Africa's Development Transformation  
Panel: Public and Development Finance  
June 26<sup>th</sup> 2020

Note: Copying, reproduction, modification, & distribution of permission copyrighted content is strictly prohibited without author approval.

**O'NEILL**  
SCHOOL OF PUBLIC AND ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS

**Public and Development Finance**

Pro-Poor Financial Sector Development: Strengthening ethical leadership through understanding ethical dilemmas

**SAPA Virtual Symposium**  
June 26, 2020

David A. Bell, Ph. D.

## SAPA INAUGURAL NEWSLETTER

### Member News

**Richard Gregory Johnson** announces ASPA's newest peer-reviewed journal, the *Journal of Social Equity and Public Administration* (JSEPA). Applications for the first JSEPA Editor-in-Chief will be accepted until July 1, 2021. Click [here](#) for the call.

**Anastase Shyaka and Gedeon Mudacumura**, two of SAPA's founding members, are co-editors with Shamsul Haque of the 2017 volume, *Democratizing Public Governance in Developing Nations: With Special Reference to Africa* (New York: Routledge).

In 2020, **Rym Kaki** joined the International Commission on Accreditation of Public Administration Education and Training Steering Committee. ICAPA provides international accreditation services to public administration education and training programs in conformity with United Nations/IASIA Standards of Excellence for Public Administration Education and Training Programs. (IASIA stands for International Commission on Accreditation of Public Administration Education and Training.)

**Simone Martin-Howard**, SAPA's Secretary, serves as the Monitoring and Evaluation Consultant on a \$500,000 grant from the United States Embassy in South Africa for the United States-South Africa Higher Education Network. Prior, she received an Erasmus KA107 grant to conduct health and policy research on Northern African and Middle Eastern migrants in Malta and grants from USAID for her dissertation work in South Africa.

~continued on next page~





## SAPA INAUGURAL NEWSLETTER

### Member News

**Aminata (Amina) Sillah** is CEO of Global Youth Innovation Network. GYIN's 6,000 members in 88 countries are a fully youth-inspired and youth-led network of change agents, entrepreneurs and rural micro-enterprises committed to fighting hunger. Its 59 chapters operate more than 25 initiatives. Just before the pandemic hit, Dr. Sillah visited the GYIN Gambia chapter's Secretariat in West Africa, meeting with the youth and other national and international stakeholders.



**GYIN GAMBIA CHAPTER**

~continued on next page~



## SAPA INAUGURAL NEWSLETTER

### Member News

SAPA founding member **Sombo M. Chunda** has been active with her scholarship on issues pertaining to Africa. Alongside working on setting up SAPA between 2017 and 2018, Sombo contributed a chapter to a book on entrepreneurship in Africa and she wrote about the survival and sustainability of African diaspora businesses in Africa. During the COVID-19 pandemic, Sombo shared her perspectives with public administration scholars and practitioners through her column for *PATimes*: “Is Africa prepared for the Coronavirus,” “Reimagining Africa in Post Pandemic, and Post DfID (UK Aid Office), “Wicked or Tame? The Duality of COVID-19,” and “Undoing SDG Progress? The Impact of COVID-19 on Africa.”



---

Submit content for the December newsletter to the editor at [dtrent@civilstrategies.net](mailto:dtrent@civilstrategies.net).

---

To become a member of SAPA you have to be a member of ASPA. When you are registering for ASPA membership you can designate SAPA as one of your section affiliations. Click here to find all ASPA sections. If you are already an ASPA member, when the time comes to renew, please make sure to include SAPA.

