

Illustrative Outline LPSA [Regional / Thematic] Working Group Work plan 2023-24

This illustrative outline for an annual working group work plan was prepared for the convenience of LPSA's Regional and Thematic Working Groups. There is no requirement for LPSA Working Groups to have a formal work plan. However, a write-up (whether informal or more formal, at the working group's discretion) of the working group's objectives, priorities, key stakeholders, and planned activities may be helpful to achieve greater internal unity of purpose among the working group's co-chairs, core working group members, LPSA member and external audiences (the global or regional community of practice). As such, the outline is purely suggestive.

1. Background

The Local Public Sector Alliance (LPSA) seeks to promote inclusive, equitable societies and sustainable global development by enhancing the understanding of decentralization and localization as complex, cross-cutting and multi-stakeholder reforms.

LPSA aims to elevate the global debate on public sector decentralization and localization, by (1) advancing the state of knowledge on decentralization and localization; (2) ensuring a more informed and interconnected global Community of Practice, where knowledge sharing takes place across countries, disciplines, institutions and sectors; and (3) engaging in convening, outreach and field building to achieve a larger, more empowered global Community of Practice, with country-level champions well-positioned to champion decentralization and localization reforms.

As a global professional network, LPSA recognizes the cross-cutting, multi-disciplinary and multi-stakeholder nature of the global Community of Practice working on different aspects of decentralization and localization. Inspired by the diversity and depth of experience and expertise of LPSA's membership, the Alliance has established a number of regional and thematic working groups to address different aspects of decentralization and localization. This includes the LPSA [name] Working Group.

[When was the working group formed / when was its first meeting?]

[Who are the Co-Chairs? Who is the Working Group Coordinator, if known?]

[Who are the core working group members (if any) beyond the co-chairs?]

[Is the working group established in partnership with any other organizations? If not, should it be?]

2. Objective of working group

LPSA Regional and Thematic Working Groups consist of groups of practitioners, scholars and citizens who bring together skills and expertise in a specific region, topic, or cross-cutting issue within the field of decentralization and localization. Each working group seeks to assess, advance, and share the state of global knowledge within their topic area, with the objective of providing the global community with best-practice conceptual and operational knowledge to address development challenges on that particular topic.

[The specific objective(s) of the working group is/ are ...]

3. Relevance of the topic

[Why is decentralization and localization important in the region? / Why is the thematic area important?]
[If desirable or relevant, discuss how decentralization/localization (or the specific thematic area) contributes to more inclusive governance and/or more resilient, inclusive, sustainable development.]

4. Possible areas for the working group to 'elevate the decentralization and localization debate'

[What are the specific gaps in the state of knowledge; gaps in available evidence; lack of policy consensus; gaps in the state of practice; or gaps in the sharing of existing knowledge that form binding constraints to inclusive and effective decentralization and localization within the region or thematic area?]

[What are the political economy drivers for the current gaps in the state of knowledge and/or practice, if any? Are there efforts underway to address any of these issues? By whom? What problems or issues are not adequately addressed?]

[Among the gaps or issues identified, and within the resources realistically available, which areas does the working group believe are its highest priority, where the contributions of the working group are likely to yield the highest-value in terms of improving the collective knowledge, understanding, and practice of decentralization and localization?]

5. Key (potential) stakeholders / audience

[Who are the key stakeholders for which the efforts of the working group are relevant? Central government officials? Local government officials? Researchers and academics? Civil society actors? Development partners?]

[Are these stakeholders already within the decentralization/localization community, or are there colleagues in 'adjacent practice communities' (e.g., sectoral colleagues; public finance experts/practitioners; etc.) for whom a better understanding of decentralization and localization is important.]

[Are there specific professionals and institutions that should ideally attend working group meetings?]

[To what extent are key (potential) stakeholders globally/regionally evenly distributed, or are there certain global/regional patterns.]

6. Proposed working group knowledge development, 2023/24

[Does the working group propose to develop any explainers, policy briefs, or other knowledge products during the coming year?]

[Does the working group propose to support/coordinate the application of the LoGICA framework and/or other LPSA methodologies in one or more countries during the coming year?]

[Does the working group propose to prepare/submit any proposals for external funding of knowledge development activities?]

7. Proposed working group knowledge sharing, 2023/24

[Does the working group propose to submit any blog posts to Decentralization.Net during the coming year? If so, roughly how many?]

[Does the working group propose to host any LPSA webinars during the coming year? If so, roughly how many (and on what topic(s), if already designated) ?]

[How many quarterly or periodic meetings does the working group plan to have during the coming year?¹]

Quarter / Year	Tentative meeting date	Meeting Chair / Lead (if designated)	Proposed topic (if designated)
Q3 2023			
Q4 2023			
Q1 2024			
Q2 2024			

[Does the working group propose to prepare/submit any proposals for external funding of knowledge sharing activities?]

8. Proposed working group outreach, convening and field-building

[Does the working group propose to engage in any outreach, convening and field-building during the coming year?² If so, how does this related to key potential stakeholders (section 5)?]

[Does the working group propose to prepare/submit any proposals for external funding of outreach, convening and field-building activities?]

9. Budget Plan

[Please summarize the proposed expenditures for the working group for the coming year.]

[Note that for July 2023 – June 2024, each regional working group (and selected thematic working groups) will be able to allocation US\$ 5,000 in support of their working group activities.]

Version: June 3, 2023

¹ The frequency of Working Group meetings is to be determined by the group itself, although (a minimum of / roughly) quarterly meetings is recommended.

² Outreach, convening and field-building activities may include a range of efforts, from engaging an administrative assistant to contact colleagues and partners by email or social media to increase the membership or exposure of the working group; to co-hosting webinars or activities; convening in-person meetings and/or any other outreach, convening and field-building activities in pursuit of the working group's objective.