

The Master in Public Policy and Governance (MPPG) Program under the Department of General and Continuing Education at [North South University](#) has partnership with the [University of Bergen](#) in Norway, [Tribhuvan University](#) in Nepal and [University of Peradeniya](#) in Sri Lanka. Initially it was a tripartite contract by the Norwegian Centre for International Cooperation in Higher Education (SIU) with the University of Bergen, Norway (main partner institution in North) and [North South University](#), Bangladesh (main partner institution in South). [Tribhuvan University](#) in Nepal joined the project as “other partnering institution” at the onset of the project launching and [University of Peradeniya](#) in Sri Lanka joined the group at the end of 2008 as a beneficiary in the South-South partnership under the project.

The main partnering institution of the MPPG Program under the NOMA (Norad’s Master Studies Program) funding of the tripartite contract is the Department of Administration and Organization Theory of the [University of Bergen \(UiB\)](#) in Norway. Dr. Ishtiaq Jamil, Associate Professor of the Department of Administration and Organization Theory is the Project Coordinator of the NOMA-MPPG project in Norway. UiB mainly looks after the overall management of the project and supports technically.

### Partnership

#### Department of Administration and Organization Theory, [University of Bergen](#), Norway

UiB is Norway's urban university who is intricately woven into the geographical, historical and cultural framework of the city, with 14,500 students and 3,200 faculty and staff. The [University of Bergen](#) is constantly interfacing with the international environment in order to expand its borders and to explore the world. It is heavily involved in international co-operation in research and education. The university has signed bilateral agreements with universities, research institutions and

academic centers of excellence in all parts of the world. UiB is also committed to co-operating with developing countries and has established programs with universities in Third World Countries in the areas of health, poverty, and resource management. And, the NOMA-MPPG Program is one of those promising international effort for development cooperation.

The partnering department at UiB was established in 1980, emerged as an independent department. In 1985 the Department adopted its present name: "The Department of Public Administration and Organization Theory"

The field of study is aimed at familiarizing students with classical problems in political science and political theory such as: the relationship between state and society; organization and individual; professionalization; the division of responsibility between the public and private sectors; democratization; the nature of politics; the relation between politics and administration; conditions for governance; leadership, steering, and management; what are characteristic features of different systems of governance and their normative foundations; ethical issues; and what the relationship is between the values to be realized and the systems of governance that are employed. The field of study is directed to the clarification of how different organizational forms affect the content of decisions, how they are implemented, and what the consequences are. The Department fully recognizes the importance of seeking to broaden the basis of knowledge through research and to lay the foundation for the recruitment of new researchers. Such knowledge is also a necessary prerequisite for the emergence of a group of professionals who possess the academic qualifications required to address and handle problems in society related to administration and organization.

### **The Central Department of Public Administration, [Tribhuvan University](#) , Nepal**

The Central Department of Public Administration under the Faculty of Management at [Tribhuvan University](#) is the other partner of the NOMA-MPPG program in South. Dr. Tek Nath Dhakal, Associate Professor of the department at the university is the NOMA Project Coordinator in Nepal. A total of 10 students had been selected from Nepal in two batches (6 students in 2008 intake and 4 students in 2009 intake) through the partner institution for the master degree program (MPPG program).

Set up in 1959, [Tribhuvan University \(TU\)](#) is a pioneering institution of higher education in Nepal. Named after the late King Tribhuvan, TU is situated in Kirtipur, a small ancient town

located five kilometers away from downtown Kathmandu.

### [Tribhuvan University](#)

, a non-profit autonomous institution, is financed mainly by the Government of Nepal. During its 49 years long journey, the state owned university has expanded its programs in different disciplines. There are five technical institutes and four general faculties, which offer 300 courses at certificate, 1079 courses at bachelors and 1000 courses at master levels. Currently, the total courses offered by the university number more than 2400. Both technical institutes and general faculties offer Ph.D. programs in different disciplines.

Prior to 1980, TU offered the courses through its constituent campuses only. With the increasing number of students interested in joining the [Tribhuvan University](#), there was a necessity of establishing colleges in the private sector because the constituent campuses of the university alone could not cater to the demand of the nation. So from 1979-80 onward TU started providing affiliation to private colleges to conduct various programs at different levels. 561 private colleges, spread all over the country, have so far received TU affiliations.

In the academic session (2008-09) there are altogether 2,90,833 students enrolled at the various levels of TU academic programs. The majority of the students (71,592) belongs to its 60 constituent campuses and 37 central departments while the remaining (1, 19,241) study at the 561 affiliated colleges. It shows that population of students in constituent campuses is very high. This is because of the low tuition fees and easy access. [Tribhuvan University](#) has 7,049 teaching faculty members and 5607 non-teaching staffs including support staff in its constituent campuses.

The Faculty of Management (FOM) has its ultimate objective of educating students for professional pursuits in business, industry and government. It is further dedicated to contributing to enhance the knowledge and understanding of business and administration. With these aims, the Central Department of Public Administration under this faculty offers Master of Public Administration (MPA) and M.Phil along with Bachelor of Business Studies (BBS), Bachelor of Travel and Tourism (BTTM), Bachelor of Hotel Management (BHM), Bachelor of Business Administration (BBA), Bachelor of Information Management (BIM), Post Graduate Diploma in Police Science (PGDPS), Master of Business Studies (MBS) and Master of Business Administration (MBA).

**The Department of Political Science, [University of Peradeniya](#), Sri Lanka**

The Department of Political Science of [University of Peradeniya](#) in Sri Lanka joined the NOMA-MPPG program at the fourth quarter of 2008 as a partner in South. Professor A.M. Navaratna Bandara is the Project Coordinator in the partner institution in Sri Lanka. 2 students had been selected from Sri Lanka in 2009 intake through the partner institution for the master degree program (MPPG program).

The [University of Peradeniya](#) is the heir to the oldest university, founded in July 1, 1942, tradition in Sri Lanka as the successor to the University of Ceylon, the first institution of its kind in the country.

It is located on a site of great natural beauty, just 8km from the city of Kandy - the historic capital of last independent kingdom of Sri Lanka, and 100km from Colombo, the current capital of the country. The university consists of seven academic faculties. About 1800 undergraduates enter the university annually, to make up an undergraduate student population of 6600, and the total number of postgraduate students registered is over 1200. Out of the total undergraduate student population, about 5100 are provided accommodation on and around campus. The University celebrated its Golden Jubilee in 1992.

The partnering department – “Political Science” at Peradeniya is the first such department to be established in a university in Sri Lanka. However, even before its establishment as a fully fledged department in 1980, several courses in political science were offered in the Special Degree Program in Economics. After being established as a department, we can see a rapid growth in the subject in terms of courses taught, areas specialized in, and the number of students enrolled. In line with new developments in the subject, there was a gradual shift of emphasis towards studying more dynamic aspects of politics. Public administration, international relations, and comparative government were offered as special options. Towards the end of the 1990s further new courses on gender, conflict resolution, human rights, and political violence and terrorism were added to the departmental curriculum. With these developments there was a marked increase in the number of students offering the subject. Today this department has become the focal point in the study of Political Science in the country, providing guidance and resource persons in the preparation of syllabi, textbooks, and the conduct of a range of examinations. It is not surprising that most of the political science teachers of other Sri Lankan universities are drawn from among the products of Peradeniya. With a considerable number of postgraduate students and a senior staff with research experience, the department now lays great emphasis on research. It is also relevant to note that the department offers opportunities for visiting researchers.

**[The National Institute of Development Administration \(NIDA\)](#) , Thailand**

The National Institute of Development Administration (NIDA) is an advanced educational institution in Thailand to prepare people to become agents of change for development. Recently MPPG Program has signed MOU with NIDA to provide two PhD. scholarships to the students of the MPPG program in each year. Post Doctoral research fund will also be offered to the faculties of NSU under this MOU.

### **Singapore Civil Service College , Singapore**

Singapore Civil Service College is an apex public sector training institution in the South-East Asia. At present, Singapore Civil Service College and MPPG, North South University jointly running a three months long training program entitled as 'Civil Service Change Management Training'. Bangladeshi Civil Servants at the rank of Senior Assistant Secretary are participating in this program.