

## CIRIEC International

### International Scientific Commission on Public Services and Public Enterprise

#### *Call for Contributions to:*

#### *Working Group on Public Enterprise and the Sustainable Development Goals*

Public enterprise (at the State-owned and Municipal levels) continues to make a significant contribution to economies around the world. Notwithstanding decades of privatisation and liberalisation the fundamental rationales for the existence of public enterprise remain applicable. Public enterprise (PE) is still widely used for the purpose of addressing market failures such as public goods and externalities. In addition, PEs are assigned the task of providing services of general interest such as postal services and public transport.

The public mission of public enterprise is nevertheless ever evolving, and this is brought into sharp focus by the United Nation's Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). PEs clearly have a major role to play in achieving most SDGs including Clean Water and Sanitation, Affordable and Clean Energy, Climate Action and Sustainable Cities and Communities.

This provides the rationale for the establishment of a new **CIRIEC Working Group on Public Enterprise and the SDGs**. This Working Group will be led by Eoin Reeves and Christina Schaefer and invites contributions from scholars who are interested in collaborating and conducting high-level research into different questions concerning PE and these SDGs. Potential questions to be addressed in single country or international comparative studies by the Working Group include:

- The evolution of public missions assigned to PEs since the adoption of the SDGs in 2015.
- How do PEs incorporate the SDGs into their public missions, strategies and activities?
- What are the implications of the SDGs for the performance of PE?
- In the context of the SDGs, how should PE performance be measured and reported?
- What are the implications of the SDGs for the accountabilities and governance of PE?
- How do PEs collaborate (with private companies, not-for-profits and citizen networks etc.) to achieve SDGs?

Proposals for projects are now invited. Proposals must be submitted **in English** which will be the working language. Proposed projects must be submitted exclusively by electronic means before **31 March 2022** to: [ciriec@uliege.be](mailto:ciriec@uliege.be). The working group will be set up in April 2022.

## Timetable and arrangements for the implementation of the research programme

### **Proposed timetable (2022-23)**

**February 2022** - Launch of the call for contributions to the International Working Group:

**31 March 2022** – Submission of proposals for contributions to the Working Group:

**30 April 2022** - Answer from the Scientific Committee to the authors:

**May 2022** - Working Group is set up and the first video-conferencing exchanges held within the working groups.

### **Work progress procedures:**

- Video conferencing and text transmission between Working Group Members
- Milestone documents: October 2022
- International workshop: June 2023.

### **Publication of the work**

The work will be promoted through publications via different media:

- CIRIEC Working papers (Peer Reviewed)
- Special Issue of Journal (e.g. *Annals of Public and Cooperative Economics (APCE)*)

### **Submission of projects for participation in a working group – March 31<sup>st</sup> 2022.**

A two-page proposal ([in English](#)) for contribution to the Working Group must be submitted in 2 pages according to the following procedures:

The first page including:

- title of the contribution, the author's name(s), the postal and e-mail addresses of the contributor(s) and his/her home organisation(s) (and country).

The second page must address the following points:

- Description of the contribution to the theme of SOEs and the SDGs;
- Principal discipline (e.g. economics, accounting, public management etc.)
- Originality of the contribution by situating it in the existing literature;
- Nature of the contribution: theoretical, empirical etc.
- Methodological approach: sources and tools of analysis.
- Selective bibliography with 5 to 10 references.

These projects will be submitted exclusively by electronic means before 31 March 2022 to: [ciriec@uliege.be](mailto:ciriec@uliege.be)

Project leader and Scientific Steering Committee: Eoin Reeves, Christina Schaefer