



PUBLIC LEADERS  
PROGRAMMES

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# LEVEL UP YOUR LEADERSHIP

Today's fast-paced and complex world requires seasoned public leaders ready to tackle unexpected challenges and drive superior performance.

Designed to support public leaders in any stage of their career journey, the curriculum of our Public Leaders Programmes blends cutting edge research with practice to provide participants with the right skills, knowledge, and frameworks essential for a successful leader.

Whether you are a rising public leader or an experienced head of a public organisation, our unique, immersive programmes will allow you to learn from world-renowned scholars, leading practitioners, and build life-long connections with like-minded peers.

Enhanced skills to meet the demands of the 21st century



## **Communicate effectively**

Explore how leaders of public organisations communicate to best impact.



## **Harness digital technology**

Learn the complex political, regulatory, and technological challenges leaders face, including cyber security and threats of enhanced artificial intelligence.



## **Strengthen organisational effectiveness**

Gain insight into the patterns and dynamics of organisational reform and what evidence there is to support strategies of radical reform or incremental improvement.



## **Reduce cognitive bias in decision-making**

Explore different forms of bias and the consequences for decision-making.



## **Negotiate in the public interest**

Refresh and extend your familiarity with core concepts of negotiation and expand your knowledge of more advanced tactics.



## **Maintain personal integrity**

Develop a strong ethical framework to understand and address ethical dilemmas, and be empowered to navigate high-pressure situations with greater confidence.





# EXECUTIVE PUBLIC LEADERS PROGRAMME

Building excellence, connecting public leaders

AT A GLANCE

-  Fee: **£18,000 per person**  
(Includes accommodation, meals, tuition, programme materials, executive coaching and extracurricular activities)
-  Duration: **two weeks**
-  Language: **English**
-  **Held in Oxford**
-  **Top leadership**

Typical class profile

|                         |                                  |                    |                    |                                                                                                              |
|-------------------------|----------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 14                      | 20                               | 18                 | 30%                | <b>Job titles include:</b><br>Attorney General,<br>Secretary General,<br>Chief Executive,<br>Deputy Governor |
| Different nationalities | Average years of work experience | Average class size | Women participants |                                                                                                              |

Overview

As a senior executive of any government department, agency, ministry, or multilateral organisation, it can often feel as if you are managing every conceivable organisational challenge at once, from the internal culture of your organisation to the mastery of new technology and the forging of international partnerships across the public and private sectors.

The Executive Public Leaders Programme offers insight from the world’s leading scholars and practitioners, peer learning from a diverse global cohort, and one-to-one guidance from a team of professional coaches. More than that, the programme strengthens the critical skills senior public servant need to build cultures of excellence, effectiveness, and integrity throughout the institutions they lead.

As a participant on the programme, you will focus on enhancing the skills, knowledge and frameworks essential in succeeding as a senior public sector leader. Throughout this immersive learning experience, you will work with peers, faculty and individual coaches to pull lessons together and apply them directly to your organisation, strengthening your contribution to the public sector more widely.

Is this you?

The Executive Public Leaders Programme is aimed at senior leaders in the public sector at the very top of their organisation, department or ministry, or are moving into such a position within the next two years. You should apply for this programme if you are looking to:

- Engage in interactive discussions, debates and simulations with a global group of senior public leaders
- Gain the skills and confidence in your management of people, technology and organisational culture
- Draw valuable lessons from the latest cutting-edge research
- Learn from Oxford’s world-class faculty, practitioners and like-minded peers
- Immerse yourself in the Oxford experience through college dinners, Shakespeare role playing and more.

“  
*A fantastic wake-up call – [the programme] took many of us with senior but partial experience and widened the spotlight, putting our shared experiences into a powerful context. A lot of practical ideas, and things to mull over. And fantastic socially.*

**Vijay Rangarajan, UK Ambassador to Brazil, 2019 participant**

“  
*The Executive Public Leaders Programme has changed me as a person, leader and public servant. [...] I also feel better equipped to help our new generation of New Zealand public service leaders on their professional journeys.*

**Hoani Lambert, Deputy Chief Executive, Department of Internal Affairs, New Zealand Government, 2022 participant**



# RIISING PUBLIC LEADERS PROGRAMME

Propelling rising public sector leaders to the top

AT A GLANCE

-  Fee: **£10,250 per person**  
(Includes accommodation, meals, tuition, programme materials, executive coaching and extracurricular activities)
-  Duration: **six days**
-  Language: **English**
-  **Held in Oxford**
-  **Leadership**

Typical class profile

|                         |                                  |                    |                    |
|-------------------------|----------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| 17                      | 10                               | 25                 | 32%                |
| Different nationalities | Average years of work experience | Average class size | Women participants |

**Job titles include:**  
Secretary to the State Government, Director of Finance, Chief of Staff to the Prime Minister, Deputy Prefect

Overview

As a rising leader of any government department, agency, ministry, or multilateral organisation, you face a double challenge: maintaining your exemplary performance in your current role, while developing the new skills and perspective you will need to take on a top leadership position. Whether you are dealing with new technologies, negotiating a public-private partnership, or taking on your first public communication campaign, you must master a range of new skills as quickly as possible.

The Rising Public Leaders Programme broadens your skills and provides you with the conceptual frameworks and practical tools you can directly apply to your role and organisation, strengthening your contribution to the public sector more widely.

Learning from Oxford’s leading scholars and practitioners, as well as from peers around the globe, this programme will help you move into the top leadership of a public sector organisation in the next three to seven years. The experience is intense and immersive, engaging you through a mixture of classroom discussion, simulations, practical exercises, and group work.

Is this you?

The Rising Public Leaders Programme is aimed at successful public leaders on a clear trajectory to the top position of a major government department or multilateral organisation in the next three to seven years. You should apply for this programme if you are looking to:

- Successfully lead a public sector organisation in a rapidly changing and deeply challenging world
- Strengthen the skills and knowledge necessary to build cultures of excellence, effectiveness and integrity throughout your institution
- Engage in interactive discussions, debates and simulations with a global group of like- minded peers
- Draw valuable lessons from the latest cutting-edge research
- Immerse yourself in the Oxford experience
- Learn from Oxford’s world-class faculty, practitioners and like-minded peers.



*The programme equipped us with the knowledge and practical tools public leaders need to make the best decisions in challenging circumstances, solve complex moral dilemmas, lead negotiations, build and manage a committed and efficient team, and add convincing stories to their narratives.[...] I left Oxford with lots of food for thought, good friends and the willingness to continue on my leadership learning journey.*

**Matthieu Hébert, Head of Unit (Comms and inter-institutional relations), DG for Economic and Financial Affairs, European Commission Belgium, 2023 participant**





# HOW TO APPLY

Please note, admission to the programme is selective and is based on professional achievements, organisational responsibilities, and personal motivation.

If you would like to preview all questions before completing the application form, you can do so by scanning the QR code or visiting the link below:

# 1



Complete the online application form with CV and organisational chart attached.



# 2



Upload your CV/Resume and organisational chart



(If eligible)

# 3



Call with Recruitment Advisor - RPLP

Call with Programme Director - EPLP



# IN-COUNTRY PUBLIC LEADERS PROGRAMME

Strengthening top public sector leadership worldwide

AT A GLANCE

-  Fee: **TBC**
-  Duration: **two to six months**
-  Language: **English**
-  **Leadership**
-  Distinctive feature:  
This programme is developed alongside an in-country partner to train a group of rising public sector leaders from one country or institution.



*“The AIG Public Leaders Programme, aimed at mid-level public servants, is enabling us grow a new generation of public sector leaders who can drive and sustain change. Our programme alumni have developed and implemented several projects that are already having a positive impact on the performance of their organisations. We are confident that future programme participants will follow in their footsteps and create sustainable projects that will drive the change Africa needs.”*

**Aig-Imoukhuede Foundation**

Overview

Drawn from the curriculum of our Rising Public Leaders Programme, but tailored to the needs of a specific country, this programme is aimed at rising leaders on track to move into top leadership positions in a national department, ministry, or similar public organisation.

Taking into account the current context for public sector leadership, the curriculum will focus on: confronting global challenges, communicating internally and externally, harnessing digital technology, decision-making under pressure, strengthening public organisations, negotiation, and integrity in public life.

Throughout the programme, participants from a single country receive world-class education from University of Oxford faculty members, beginning online and culminating in a one-week residential programme in their own country.

The format of the programme is designed in four phases to fit busy public sector leaders, as follows:

- Phase I:** Five consecutive days with sessions live online.
- Phase II:** Several weeks of asynchronous material which participants work through in their own time.
- Phase III:** A six-day residential in the host country featuring lectures, workshops, case studies and simulations, attended by key Blavatnik School faculty.
- Phase IV (optional):** A final project to apply programme learnings and concepts to a real-world problem inside participant’s own organisation.

Programme example

**AIG Public Leaders Programme**

Our inaugural in-country programme ran in Nigeria from September 2021, in partnership with the Aig-Imoukhuede Foundation, in a blended format both online and in person in Abuja.

The AIG Public Leaders Programme 2021 afforded 50 high-potential men and women working in the Nigerian public service a unique opportunity to transform their leadership skills and improve public service in their country.





# BE PART OF A LIFELONG NETWORK

Upon completion of any of the Public Leaders Programmes, you will become part of a network of exceptional public leaders, who share the same commitment to improve public service globally.

This lifelong community will not only serve as a powerful reminder of a shared desire to make a real difference in the world, but also allow you to forge connections that you can turn to as trusted sources of advice and research.

As an executive programme alumnus, your connection to the School will continue beyond the classroom, and there are a number of ways for you to stay connected with us, including by:

- Becoming a mentor for other students
- Acting as an ambassador for the School, connecting us with future students, partners and donors
- Collaborating with faculty on future projects
- Attending and participating in events
- Participating as a visiting expert, for example at a career-focused seminar or practical skills session
- Invitations to exclusive online events throughout the year focusing on topical issues, featuring faculty and fellow participants
- Gaining access to an exclusive LinkedIn alumni group.



# WORLD CLASS FACULTY

## Programme Directors



**Calum Miller**  
Senior Fellow of Practice  
in Public Management

**Programme Director**  
Executive Public Leaders  
Programme

**Faculty**  
Rising Public Leaders  
Programme, In Country  
Public Leaders Programme



**Roxana Radu**  
Associate Professor of  
Digital Technologies and  
Public Policy

**Programme Director**  
Rising Public Leaders  
Programme

**Faculty**  
Executive Public Leaders  
Programme, In Country  
Public Leaders Programme



**Kate Orkin**  
Associate Professor in  
Economics and Public Policy

**Programme Director**  
In Country Public Leaders  
Programme

**Faculty**  
Rising Public Leaders  
Programme



**Chris Stone**  
Professor of Practice  
of Public Integrity

**Programme Director**  
Executive Public Leaders  
Programme, Rising Public  
Leaders Programme,  
In Country Public Leaders  
Programme

## Faculty



**Mara Airoidi**  
Director of the  
Government  
Outcomes Lab



**Dapo Akande**  
Professor of Public  
International Law



**Simon Bucknall**  
Adjunct Faculty,  
Public Speaking  
Expert



**Eleanor Carter**  
Research Director  
(GO Lab)



**Mary-Louise Clark**  
Associate Fellow,  
Saïd Business School



**Pepper Culpepper**  
Vice-Dean for Academic  
Affairs and Blavatnik  
Chair in Government  
and Public Policy

Executive Public Leaders Programme

Rising Public Leaders Programme

In Country Public Leaders Programme



**Stefan Dercon**  
Professor of  
Economic Policy



**Thomas Elston**  
Associate Professor  
in Public Administration



**Emily Jones**  
Associate Professor in  
Public Policy (Global  
Economic Governance)



**Clare Leaver**  
Professor of  
Economics and  
Public Policy



**Aaron Maniam**  
Fellow of Practice  
and Director, Digital  
Transformation Education



**Ciaran Martin**  
Professor of Practice  
in the Management  
of Public Organisations

Executive Public Leaders Programme

Rising Public Leaders Programme

In Country Public Leaders Programme



**Thomas Simpson**  
Associate Professor  
of Philosophy and  
Public Policy



**Maya Tudor**  
Associate Professor  
of Government and  
Public Policy



**Martin Williams**  
Associate  
Professor in Public  
Management



**Jo Wolff**  
Alfred Landecker  
Professor of Values  
and Public Policy



**Ngaire Woods**  
Dean of Blavatnik  
School of  
Government

Executive Public Leaders Programme

Rising Public Leaders Programme

In Country Public Leaders Programme





# IMPROVING GOVERNMENT WORLDWIDE

The Blavatnik School of Government is one of the University of Oxford's newest and most vibrant departments.

We draw on the range of Oxford University expertise from science, computing to humanities and social sciences, and implement it in our teaching, research, and wider engagement, with a mission to improve government worldwide.

Since our foundation in 2010, we have learned from and advised multiple heads of government, several civil service chiefs, and many C-suite executives from organisations like the UN and the World Bank. With a history of over 900 years of teaching, Oxford University has produced nearly 60 heads of state and government and countless leaders of major political organisations.





# THE OXFORD EXPERIENCE

Our Public Leaders Programmes reimagine leadership education for the 21st century.

While studying on one of our Public Leaders Programmes, you will be immersed in Oxford's academic rigour, learning from some of the world's leading scholars and practitioners. Emphasising a combined focus on academic theory and practical approaches will allow you to gain highly recognised Oxford credentials, renowned globally as a sign of excellence and authority, which could significantly elevate the contribution you make to your public sector organisation.

For our participants that join us in Oxford, there is a variety of unique opportunities and exclusive experiences to benefit from, including:

- Programme dinners and interactive sessions with your fellow participants at historic Oxford colleges
- Special social events such as college visits, walking tours and refreshments at traditional Oxford pubs
- Wandering the ancient, cobbled streets and taking in over 900 years of history
- Trips to London with debates, sessions and dinners at the House of Lords.





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# TAKE THE NEXT STEP

Interested in finding out more?

Whether you are interested in a programme for individuals or want to understand how we work with organisations, contact our recruitment team for a more personalised advice.





[bsg.ox.ac.uk](http://bsg.ox.ac.uk)

