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Nota di contenuto	Cover; Contents; I. Introduction; II. Data; A. Applicants' CVs; B. Issues of sample representativity; III. Our measure(s) of education attainment in public administrations; A. Non quality adjusted measure of education attainment; B. Quality adjusted education attainment in public administrations; C. Seniority and Gender; Seniority; Gender; Agency; IV. Applications; A. About Incentives; B. About government effectiveness; V. Conclusions; References; Appendixes; Country Academic Ranking; Figures; Figure 1. Education Attainment in the General Population around the World Figure 2. Example of Official's CV Figure 3. Overview of the Distribution of Age in Sample; Figure 4. Age Distribution by Region; Figure 5. Gender Distribution by Region; Figure 6. Age Distribution by Type of Course; Figure 7. Fraction of Officials with Tertiary Education by Region; Figure 8. Education Attainments: Public Administration vs. General Population; Figure 9. Average Years of Tertiary Education in Public Administrations; Figure 10. Fraction of officials with a degree from a country ranked in the top 48; Figure 11. Normalized weighted years of tertiary education by region Figure 12. Adjusted vs. non adjusted education attainment in public administration Figure 13. Ratio of public administrations' education attainment in public; Figure 14. Education attainment by rank and region; Figure 15. Education attainment by seniority and region; Figure

16. Gender differences in education attainment in public administrations; Figure 17. Fraction of Managers who are male; Figure 18. Fraction of senior managers who are male; Figure 19. Education Attainment by Agency and Region; Figure 20. Education attainment and Relative Public Sector Pay  
Figure 21. Education attainment and tax collection; Figure 22. Education attainment and tax revenues controlling GDP per education and; Figure 23. Education attainment and corruption; Figure 24. Education Attainment and Corruption controlling for GDP per capita and; Figure 25. Education Attainment and Public Sector Management; Figure 26. Education attainment and bureaucratic quality; Figure 27. Education and Domestic Financial Sector Standards; Tables; Table 1. Country Level Academic Ranking

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## Sommario/riassunto

The paper provides a detailed description of a novel dataset on education attainment in public administrations covering the period 1981-2011 for 178 countries. The dataset uses information extracted from CVs for over 130,000 mid to senior level officials from mainly central banks and ministries of economy and finance. Our main finding is that there is little heterogeneity across regions when considering a non quality-adjusted measure of education attainment in public administrations. Adjusting our measure for quality, using a country wide academic ranking, reveals important cross-regional heterogeneity differing from that of standard measures of education attainment for the general population. The dataset also allows us to uncover important patterns in public administrations' education attainment along gender and seniority across regions. We further use the dataset to explore a few applications which provide some evidence of (i) the importance of salary incentives in attracting highly educated staff and (ii) a positive association between education attainment in public administrations and government effectiveness (e.g. higher tax revenue mobilization, limiting corruption, better public finance management and private market support).

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