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COMMONWEALTH LOCAL GOVERNMENT FORUM

- represents a strong collective voice for local government across the Commonwealth
- strengthens local democracy and service delivery
- is an influential knowledge-sharing network

About CLGF

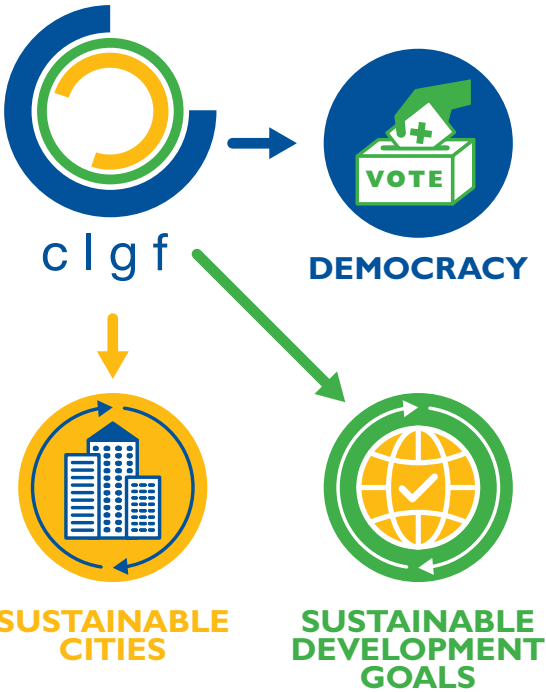
The Commonwealth Local Government Forum (CLGF) works to promote and strengthen effective democratic local government throughout the Commonwealth and to facilitate the exchange of good practice in local government structures and services.

CLGF is unique as it brings together the relevant local government ministry from central government with local government representatives; this central-local network promotes partnership between local and central government on policy, resourcing and capacity.

CLGF is a membership organisation, with more than 200 members in 47 Commonwealth countries. Members include: local government associations, councils, ministries with responsibility for local government and associate members – universities and professional organisations.

Commonwealth Heads of Government endorsement

CLGF was set up as an autonomous organisation in 1995 and is now recognised as the voice of local government in the Commonwealth. CLGF has received endorsement at successive Commonwealth Heads of Government Meetings (CHOGMs), which means the voice of local government is being heard at the highest level.



Punching above its weight: delivering development on the ground

CLGF has recently developed a new strategic vision for the organisation and its members through a collaborative approach, which builds upon a legacy of past delivery and tangible results.

CLGF's new direction of travel focusses on a much more innovative operating model by offering 'local solutions to local problems' around:

- **Strengthening local democracy across the Commonwealth**
- **Localising the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)**
- **Building sustainable cities through strong and focussed partnerships**

Strengthening democracy

Within the framework of CLGF's Aberdeen Agenda (a set of twelve core principles for local democracy and good governance, endorsed by Commonwealth Heads of Government and incorporated into the Commonwealth Charter), CLGF works to support the institutions and processes of democracy, through strengthening local government legislation, governance systems, community participation and the meaningful role of women in local governance.

Localising the SDGs

Together with other partners, CLGF has successfully lobbied for the role of local government in the implementation of the SDGs by promoting local economic development, addressing climate change in small island states, reducing rural poverty, supporting gender equality and building sustainable communities. CLGF is also increasingly focusing on exploring innovative approaches to raising finances for local government so that it is well resourced and empowered to contribute to the achievement of the SDGs.



CLGF's work is based on the following principles:

- Identifying local solutions for local problems
- Placing communities at the centre of its work
- Working through and with local partners in delivering programmes
- Striving to establish creative partnerships and new operating models
- Ensuring global relevance through key partnerships and regionally tailored responses

Building sustainable cities through partnerships



CLGF's Commonwealth Sustainable Cities Network (CSCN) is a strong city-to-city network composed of city mayors and managers from across the Commonwealth helping cities in responding to the challenges of rapid urbanisation. The network is working towards advancing the New Urban Agenda by developing programmes and advocacy around strengthening city leadership, making cities inclusive, safe and resilient and ensuring that they become engines of growth and innovation.

The CSCN's key focus areas include:

- Devolution and governance
- Urban trade and investment in cities
- Building smart cities
- City inclusiveness and resilience



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CLGF has members in:

Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Australia, Bahamas, Bangladesh, Belize, Botswana, Cameroon, Canada, Cook Islands, Cyprus, Dominica, Ghana, Gibraltar, Guyana, India, Jamaica, Kenya, Kiribati, Lesotho, Malawi, Malaysia, Malta, Mauritius, Mozambique, Namibia, New Zealand, Nigeria, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Rwanda, Samoa, Seychelles, St Lucia, Sierra Leone, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Swaziland, Tanzania, Trinidad and Tobago, Tonga, Tuvalu, Uganda, United Kingdom, Vanuatu and Zambia.

Regional presence

CLGF headquarters are based in London, UK and it has regional offices in Ghana, Fiji, India, South Africa and Trinidad and Tobago. CLGF also has country level project offices in Pakistan, Sri Lanka and Zimbabwe.

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