

# Commonwealth Local Government Conference

## Fit for the future: resources and capacity for effective local government

Mediterranean Conference Centre

VALLETTA MALTA  
21-24 NOVEMBER 2017



**Local governments throughout the world face major challenges in planning, delivery and maintaining services and infrastructure in local communities.**

The 2017 CLGF conference will look at strategies for boosting local government's resource base and capacity to improve performance, governance and service delivery, ensuring it is fit for purpose to meet the demands of the future.



**Secure your place** at this important event and join key decision-makers and stakeholders in Valletta to find solutions to meet these enormous challenges.

### Speakers include:

- Hon Dr Joseph Muscat, Prime Minister of Malta
- Rt Hon Helen Clark, New Zealand (tbc)
- Rt Hon Baroness Patricia Scotland QC, Commonwealth Secretary General
- Cllr Rev Mpho Moruakgomo, CLGF Chairperson

Other speakers will include city mayors, ministers, financial institution and development agency representatives and the private sector.

[www.clgc2017.org](http://www.clgc2017.org)

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# Commonwealth Local Government Conference

The theme of the 2017 Commonwealth Local Government Conference is ***Fit for the future: resources and capacity for effective local government.***

Local government has a crucial role to play in creating prosperous and thriving communities, ensuring that a people-led, bottom-up approach is at the heart of everything. As the provider of many basic services, such as water, waste, transport, health, housing, education, it is also a major player in development.

**The 17 Sustainable Development Goals are the blueprint for development and the achievement of a better world by 2030 and we must ensure that local government is resourced to do this.**

## Themes

This conference seeks to change the narrative on how we can resource local government for delivery and development. It provides a platform to revisit fiscal decentralisation and local revenue generation and to explore innovative financing models. We will look at how

local governments work with partners as equals; the private sector and civil society on social enterprise, on new ways of raising finance such as green financing and municipal bonds; and how we can use new technologies to work smart and be more effective and efficient.

Join 600 plus delegates from all spheres of government across the Commonwealth – heads of government, ministers, local government leaders and practitioners, research pioneers and the private sector – to discuss these topics through formal and informal sessions – presentations, working groups and debates; complemented by networking opportunities, study visits and a vibrant cultural programme.

A flavour of the working group topics:

- Improving fiscal decentralisation to enable local government to contribute effectively to global development objectives
- Strategies to enhance accountability and transparency
- Innovative partnerships to enhance capital infrastructure
- Municipal bonds and alternative mechanisms and processes for raising and managing local government funding, including community development
- New technologies to facilitate smart working

Held every two years, this is the first time that CLGF's flagship conference is taking place on Malta with a conference venue dating back to the twelfth century and the Knights of St John. Like many other Commonwealth countries, Malta is a small island state but enjoying a well developed economy. You will have the chance to see some local council initiatives during the study visits. Malta is collaborating with the Commonwealth Secretariat to create a Commonwealth Small States Centre of Excellence and is the location of Microsoft's Innovation Centre.



## CLGF Research Colloquium 19/20 November 2017

Representatives from universities, policy institutes and local government policy makers from across the Commonwealth will meet before the main conference to present and discuss their research around local government resourcing and capacity. The outcomes of the discussions will be presented to the main conference.

## CLGF Youth Forum 21 November 2017

This one day event brings together young councillors, mayors and officials from local governments and ministries with youth civil society champions and entrepreneurs to look at issues around the conference theme, bringing their outcomes to the main conference.



# Commonwealth Local Government Conference 2017

Fit for the future: resources and capacity for effective local government

21-24 November 2017, Mediterranean Conference Centre, Valletta, Malta

## Tuesday 21 November

10.00 Check-in opens

17.30 **Opening ceremony**

with dignitaries including:

- Hon Dr Joseph Muscat
- Rt Hon Baroness Patricia Scotland QC
- Cllr Rev Mpho Moruakgomo

19.00 **Opening of exhibition** by Prime Minister Muscat and other dignitaries followed by **Opening reception**

## Wednesday 22 November

09.00 **Objectives and theme of the Conference**  
Local government as a full partner in developing sustainable communities. Presentation of conference objectives by CLGF  
Response by a member of CLGF's Research Advisory Group  
**Keynote address:**  
How government at all levels can work in partnership to invest in sustainable development

10.30 Refreshment break

11.00 **Plenary 1: Fiscal decentralisation, local revenue generation, trade and investment: creating an enabling environment for cities, local governments and partners to deliver sustainable development**  
Keynote address and panel Q + A

12.30 Lunch

13.45 **Working groups 1**  
*Six parallel sessions offering in-depth discussions on particular aspects of the theme.*

15.30 Refreshment break

16.00 **Plenary 2: Local governments working smarter to be more efficient and effective**  
Keynote and panel session

17.15 **Regional meetings** (CLGF members)  
Africa, Asia Pacific, Americas, Europe and Associate members

19.00 **Cocktail: Women in local government – empowering women leaders and meeting SDG goal 5 across the Commonwealth**

## Thursday 23 November

09.00 **Plenary 3: Priorities for localising finance to enable local government to address the global imperative of climate change in local communities**  
Moderated panel session followed by Q + A

11.00 Refreshment break

11.30 **Working groups 2**  
*Six parallel sessions offering in-depth discussions on particular aspects of the theme.*

13.15 Lunch

14.30 **Launch of the Commonwealth Local Government Handbook 2017-18**

15.00 **Plenary 4: Debate - Innovations in financing to support sustainable development**

16.45 Close

19.00 **Gala dinner and cultural evening**

## Friday 24 November

09.00 **Plenary 5: Fit for the future: outcomes and recommendations**  
*Presentation of outcomes*

10.30 **Closing session**

11.00 Refreshment break

11.30 **CLGF General Meeting** (members and invited observers)

13.15 Lunch

14.00 **Study visits**  
*Visits to local council areas in Malta to see initiatives and developments related to the conference theme*



# Commonwealth Local Government Conference 2017

[www.clgc2017.org](http://www.clgc2017.org)

All information about the conference, including practical details, can be found on the conference website [www.clgc2017.org](http://www.clgc2017.org).

## How to register

You must register in advance. The easiest way to register is via the conference website by clicking on the registration button.

If you cannot access the online form, please email [info@clgf.org.uk](mailto:info@clgf.org.uk) for details about how to register.

Please ensure that you book in advance for each person attending as part of your delegation. This will ensure you can check in easily on the day to receive your security pass.

## Fees

CLGF members	-	<b>€800</b>
Non CLGF members	-	<b>€1000</b>
Groups of 8 or more	-	<b>10% discount</b>

## Spouses and accompanying persons

All accompanying persons, including spouses, must register if they wish to attend the social events; anyone wishing to do so can register as an accompanying person for a payment of €125. Anyone wishing to attend the conference sessions must be registered as a full delegate.

## Conference app

Once registered, you will receive details about the conference app which will give you access to other delegates, updates on the programme and speakers, and allow you to receive notifications before and during the event. Look out for the app when it goes live in July. If you are registered you will be sent an email notification.

## LOCAL INFORMATION

### Visas

Malta is part of the European Schengen area and you are likely to need a Schengen visa to enter the country. EU nationals are free to travel to Malta without a visa.

Delegates are responsible for obtaining and paying for their own entry visa. As part of the documentation required to obtain a visa, you will need your registration acceptance letter, which you will receive once you have registered.

See website for a list of CLGF member countries requiring a visa. Please visit [www.schengenvisa.info](http://www.schengenvisa.info) to see details of the nearest high commissions providing visa services for Malta and to check visa requirements.

### Hotels

Full accommodation details, including the four designated conference hotels, are available on the website.

All accommodation should be booked and paid for directly with the hotels. There will be a welcome desk at the airport but please ask your hotel about airport transfers when you book.

## About CLGF

CLGF works to promote and strengthen democratic local government across the Commonwealth and to encourage the exchange of best practice – through conferences and events, technical assistance projects and research. CLGF has recently developed a new strategic vision for the organisation and its members through a collaborative approach, which builds upon a legacy of strong delivery and tangible results. CLGF's new direction of travel focuses on a much more innovative operating model by offering 'local solutions to local problems' around strengthening local democracy across the Commonwealth, localising the SDGs and building sustainable cities through strong and focused partnerships.

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