



clgf

# Commonwealth Local Government Forum

- **Provides** a strong, collective voice for local government across the Commonwealth
- **Strengthens** local democracy and promotes good governance
- **Enhances** national policy and local service delivery
- **Delivers** an influential, knowledge sharing network of members and partners

# About **clgf**

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

CLGF is unique as it brings together individual councils and cities; national and regional local government associations; government ministries responsible for the sector; and universities and professional organisations. The central-local network promotes partnership between the different spheres of government on policy, resourcing and capacity.

CLGF is a membership organisation with members in 47 countries. It was set up as an autonomous organisation in 1995, endorsed by Commonwealth Heads of Government at their meeting in New Zealand later that year. It has received further endorsement at subsequent Commonwealth Heads of Government Meetings (CHOGMs) and in 2003 was given official recognition as an associated Commonwealth organisation of elected representatives. CLGF is acknowledged as the voice of local government in the Commonwealth and continues to ensure that the views of local government are heard at the highest level of Commonwealth and global policy and decision-making.

## Networking

CLGF is a network bringing together core local government stakeholders: local governments, local government associations and ministries of local government; promoting intergovernmental dialogue and exchange. CLGF also convenes researchers and professionals working on local government.

## Localising the SDGs

CLGF as part of the Global Taskforce of Local and Regional Governments has successfully lobbied for local government's role as a partner in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). CLGF's programmes work to localise the SDGs, including through delivery of local economic development, improved service delivery and development of more enabling legislation.

## Strengthening democracy

Within the framework of CLGF's Aberdeen Agenda – 12 core principles for local democracy and good governance - endorsed by CHOGM and incorporated into the Commonwealth Charter; CLGF works to support the institutions and processes of democracy by strengthening local government legislation, governance systems, community participation and the meaningful role of women in local government.

**ADVOCACY** – as well as engaging directly with the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting (CHOGM), CLGF represents local government on global policy issues. It has a Framework Partnership Agreement with the EU and works strategically with the UN and other global organisations in support of local government.



**PROGRAMMES** – securing external funding, CLGF works with members across the Commonwealth strengthening decentralisation, localising the SDGs, improving services and enhancing local economic development.



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**KNOWLEDGE** – working with academics and global experts, CLGF provides research, analysis and best practice on a range of local government issues through its Knowledge Hub and the Journal of Local Governance.



**NETWORKS** – underpinned by the networking aspect of the organisation, CLGF facilitates continual learning and policy enhancement.

Building sustainable local government through partnership



### Commonwealth Women in Local Government Network (ComWLG)

Is committed to supporting women to play a full and active role in public life, particularly with regard to equal representation in local governance in line with SDG 5: Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls.

**ComWLG focus areas include supporting:**

- Existing women representatives
- Prospective women representatives
- Political parties and LGAs to enhance women in leadership
- Commonwealth and international policy-making



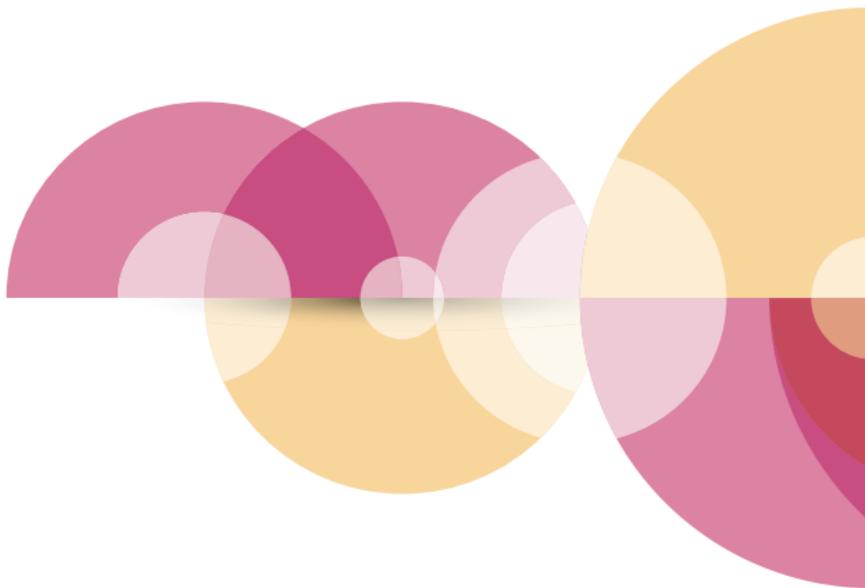
### Commonwealth Sustainable Cities Network

Is a strong city-to-city network composed of cities from across the Commonwealth, supporting mayors and senior officials 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.

**CSCN focus areas include:**

- Devolution and governance
- Cities and trade/investment
- Technology for development
- City inclusiveness and resilience

Democracy, equality, transparency, accountability, gender balance, sustainability, human settlements, good governance, cities, resilience, local government, sustainable development goals



CLGF has offices in Europe: London and Malta; the Americas: Trinidad and Tobago; Asia: India; the Pacific: Fiji; Southern Africa: South Africa; West Africa: Ghana; with country level project offices in Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Zambia and Zimbabwe.



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T: +44 (0)20 8138 5840 E: [info@clgf.org.uk](mailto:info@clgf.org.uk)