



CONCEPT NOTE FOR THE VIRTUAL WEBINAR ON THE COVID 19 PANDEMIC RESPONSE FOR EAST AFRICAN COUNTY AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATIONS

Co-Hosted by The Commonwealth Local Government Forum

“Sustainability of EAC County and Local Government Actions in Current and Post COVID 19 Pandemic Times”

22ND SEPTEMBER, 2020

Background:

Local Governments are leading the COVID-19 responses around the world. They are on the frontline of citizen engagement, service delivery and management of public space. Studies, testimonies and local responses from around the world have demonstrated that local governments' preparedness, infrastructure and human capital capabilities, access to emergency funds and co-ordination and communication flow with Central government are among the key measures to containing the spread of the virus and ensuring speedy recovery.

To date various engagements have been held between Local Governments at International Regional and Local levels aimed at exchange and sharing of experiences and best practices on COVID 19 management. None the less, EALGA takes note of the fact that whereas we have all participated in various interventions on this subject but few of them have provided internal reflection to the

experiences of **LG Associations** in supporting their members to remain effective service providers amidst the corona pandemic.

EALGA is therefore providing its Member Associations /Forums with this opportunity with the support of CLGF. It is anticipated that the engagement shall provide a peer learning space for members to support each other have in place a strong representative voice for the member sub national level institutions during this pandemic period and post pandemic times.

Key Objectives

The key objective of the Virtual Event is to: “To reflect on how the County and Local Government Associations/Forums have supported their members in managing the COVID-19 pandemic, challenges and opportunities, as well as recommend strategic policy measures that can be adopted by both Regional and National levels of Government, now and in the future.

Specific Objectives:

1. To look at Global and Regional Best Practices emerging from other Local Government Associations in response to the COVID 19 Pandemic.
2. To reflect on how effective Associations are, and can be in terms of supporting members to deal with COVID 19 response initiatives and related emergency local level service delivery situations.
3. Reflect on current National Level Government efforts in the EAC Region that have been put in place to support County and Local Governments to effectively respond to COVID-19 and the effectiveness and sustainability of these response mechanisms.
4. To share and document the individual National Level County Government Forums and LG Association best practices and lessons that have emerged in response to COVID-19.
5. Identify Strategic Policy advocacy and capacity building interventions for EALGA's uptake.

Webinar Format

The Virtual Engagement shall adopt a mix and match of the case study and plenary approach.

Target Audience

The County Government Forums in Kenya together with the Local Government Associations of Burundi, Tanzania, Rwanda and Uganda shall participate in the Webinar represented by their representative members of the EALGA Executive Committee, Secretaries General, Chief Executive Officers, EALGA Focal persons, Representatives of Partner International Networks i.e. CLGF, UCLGA EARO, and the EAC SG Forum Regional Dialogue Committee representatives.

Programme

The Virtual Engagement shall have a half-day virtual Programme with a requirement for all participants to register and participate virtually.

Duration:

EALGA and CLGF have scheduled the 22nd of September, 2020 for this event starting at **11. a.m. East African time (10 a.m. for Rwanda)**, which is expected to last for at least 4 hours.