

Media Statement

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SALGA to launch revamped Integrated Councillor Induction Programme (ICIP) as part of the orientation and upskilling newly elected & returning councillors for the 5th Democratic and People-Centred Local Government

Following the 5th democratic local government elections held earlier this month, the South African Local Government Association (SALGA) will on, Tuesday, 30 November 2021, unveil the newly revamped councillor induction programme and a virtual e-learning digital toolkit at the Birchwood Hotel & OR Tambo Conference Centre in Ekurhuleni, Gauteng Province.

Customarily, post Local Government Elections (LGE), SALGA is responsible for the implementation of the Integrated Councillor Induction Programme (ICIP) which is rolled out nationally as part of the orientation for the newly elected councillors. This is part of SALGA's ongoing role in guiding the transition, using the ICIP as an opportunity to renew and usher in the 5th Democratic and People-Centred Local Government, upskilling and capacitating the new councillors and the returning ones on their roles and responsibilities as they execute the mandate of local government. Central to the training is the importance of responsibility and integrity to ensure competence and skill when the councillors execute the mandate of service delivery to their constituencies.

SALGA is coordinating and delivering the ICIP in collaboration with COGTA; National Treasury, Auditor General SA, the National School of Government and LGSETA and a range of stakeholders within and outside of government.

To be convened under the theme, “Enabling Ethical and Dynamic Political Leadership”, the purpose of the induction training is to entrench the culture of accountability and ethical conduct for the newly elected office bearers to build a capable developmental local government that is responsive to the people and communities.

Ebrahim Fakir, Director of Programmes from Auwal Socio-economic Research Institute (ASRI) is expected to deliver a keynote address during the launch.

Since its inception, the ICIP continues being redeveloped and reviewed to adapt its learning material to be applicable for use on both the physical and eLearning platforms. This process was also necessitated by the changes in the policy and legislative framework governing local government since the 2016 local government elections and necessitated by the COVID-19 pandemic. This revised material will be launched and introduced into the sector.

The virtual learning platform will introduce an eLearning solution that allows for the delivery of training programmes while responding to the directives and regulations aimed at combating the COVID-19 pandemic.

This virtual platform, known as the SALGA Leadership Village, will be introduced to the nation during the launch as a ground-breaking achievement that the organization has put together to deliver its training programmes, generic and credit-bearing in a virtual platform as it is done by other training institutions including Institutions of Higher Learning.

SALGA as a representative of organized local government in the 25 years of its existence has managed to facilitate a comprehensive transformation of local government by supporting this structure of government in a complex environment characterised by a highly diverse membership base of municipalities. As a custodian of local government intelligence, SALGA is committed to amplifying the accessibility of the knowledge hub and centre of local government intelligence.

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