

YOUTH MONTH

JUNE 2021

The Month Ahead | June 2021

Youth Participation and Involvement in Local Government

There are over 1.8 billion young people in the world today, 90 percent of whom live in developing countries, where they usually make up the largest proportion of the population.

In the case of South Africa, young people again make up the largest proportion of the population. By mid-2019, there were 20.6 million young people aged 15-34 in the country.

With young people making up the largest proportion of the country's population, socio-economic issues such as the lack of education, unemployment, social support,

access to healthcare and community safety affect young people more than any other generation.

It therefore follows that young people, by sheer weight of numbers, will be the key drivers of change in any society and as such, young people must be placed at the centre of sustainable development.

With June being Youth Month, a case study for this will be provided by SALGA TV. The episode, which airs this month, explores the role of young people in the management of water resources.



The show showcases how local government is harnessing the innovative spirit of young people in providing solutions to water related challenges in South Africa.

The case study is one of the many coordinated activities taking place within the three spheres of government to provide safe and quality drinking water to South African households and also contribute to economic growth.

It is against this background that the South African Local Government Association (SALGA), joins youth voices around the country in calling for better opportunities for young people to not only champion their interests in society but also shape the socio-economic landscape of their country.

Another headline-grabber this month is the Building Inclusive Green Municipalities (BIGM). A mini-conference will be held in each of the 6 BIGM municipalities in the country:

- Winnie Madikizela-Mandela Local Municipality- 11 June 2021
- King Sabata Dalindyebo Local Municipality- 14 June 2021
- Port St Johns Local Municipality- 15 June 2021
- Ngqushwa Local Municipality Ndlambe Local Municipality- 18 June 2021
- Kouga Local Municipality- 22 June 2021

The final closeout conference will be held on 24-25 June 2021 in Gqeberha Broadwalk Hotel in Port Elizabeth, Eastern Cape. COVID-19 safety protocols will be observed.

SALGA in the Western Cape will be convening a Municipal Managers Forum (MMF) from June 24-25. The meeting will focus on a wide range of issues facing local government in the province, including the COVID-19 pandemic, which has seen municipalities undergo significant change.

SALGA in Gauteng will be promoting the advancement of youth, women, people with disabilities and SMMEs at its virtual Hackathon later this month.

Held under the theme, “Youth based solutions to unemployment”, the initiative will see participating youths between the ages of 18-35 receive technical and personal development learning opportunities in the field of entrepreneurship, exposure to marketing and communication skills and access to collaboration opportunities to mention but a few.

Commemorative events:

- National Environment Month is celebrated in June (1-30), with the South African government and captains of industry leading the way by stimulating awareness on environmental issues and challenging all to become agents for change.
- The 8th of June is observed internationally as World Oceans Day. World Oceans Day is a special opportunity to celebrate the world’s shared oceans and also raise awareness of the role of the oceans and the importance of conserving and protecting our marine environment.



- The 47th G7 summit is scheduled for 11–13 June 2021 in the United Kingdom. The Minister of International Relations and Cooperation, Dr Naledi Pandor will be in attendance. The meeting will among others, focus on building back from the COVID-19 pandemic.
- June 17 is World Day to Combat Desertification and Drought. The day aims to promote community and ecosystem resilience while improving the human condition, particularly in dry lands.
- World Refugee Day is held every year on 20 June. It is a special day when the world takes time to recognise the resilience of forcibly displaced people throughout the world.
- On June 23, Minister of Public Service and Administration (DPSA) Senzo Mchunu will lead the Government celebration of the Africa Public Service Day (APSD), which will be hosted in the City of Tshwane with an online connection in observance of the Alert Level 3 Regulations on the nation-wide lockdown.

Africa Public Service Day is an event entrenched in the African Union. It originates from the conference of African Ministers for Public or Civil Service held in Tangier, Morocco in 1994.

The day recognizes the value and virtue of service to the community. It is also a platform to reflect and share practical recommendations on women empowerment in public service nationally and across the continent.

Follow hashtag:

#20YearsOfDemocraticLocalGovernment and look out for more activities planned for the 20 Years of Democratic Local Government on the SALGA website: www.salga.org.za and all our social media platforms including Facebook, Twitter and Instagram.

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