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**CIRCULAR 20/2022**  
**INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMMES & PARTNERSHIPS**

**FROM : ACTING CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER**

**TO : EXECUTIVE MAYORS/MAYORS**  
**SPEAKERS**  
**CITY MANAGERS / MUNICIPAL MANAGER**  
**PROVINCIAL DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONS**

**DATE : 01 AUGUST 2022**

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**ICLD: WOMEN'S POLITICAL LEADERSHIP PROGRAMME 2023**

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**1. PURPOSE**

The purpose of this circular is to inform municipalities about the Women's Political Leadership programme international training opportunity for women councillor's offered by Swedish International Centre for Local Democracy (ICLD).

**2. BACKGROUND**

The Swedish International Centre for Local Democracy (ICLD) signed agreements on the 14<sup>th</sup> March 2022 for collaboration with three important local government associations in Southern Africa, the Local Government Association of Zambia (LGAZ), Botswana Association of Local Authorities (BALA) and South African Local Government Association (SALGA).

The cooperation agreements open new possibilities and channels to enhance capacity development of local democracy in the region and are the first of their kind for ICLD.

Joint Steering Committees between ICLD and the local government associations will be established to identify possible areas of collaboration and joint projects that are of benefit to the respective local governments.

The SALGA and ICLD agreement look at areas of capacity building and how to empower functionaries in our cities in South Africa. The ICLD programmes are aligned with the SALGA Centre for Leadership and Governance (SCLG).

### **3. ICLD TRAINING PROGRAMME**

ICLD's training programmes are aimed at decision-makers and administrative officials in Swedish partner countries, whether they work in the public sector, within local and regional governmental organizations or voluntary organizations. At the heart of the training programmes is an opportunity for the participants to learn from Swedish cutting-edge skills, experience, and methodologies in the field of local democracy development. There is, however, another goal, namely the creation of long-term networks and partnerships between Swedish partner countries and between the participants and Swedish stakeholders.

#### **3.1. Women's Political Leadership 2023**

The Women Political Leadership training programme is a 12-month training focusing on developing political leadership skills and is open only to women who hold an elected seat in a local or regional government. All parts of the training are based on equity, participation, transparency and accountability, and the goal is to strengthen democracy in the organizations taking part in the training, primarily by strengthening the politician herself, as well as capacitating women politicians in general to be good role models and to get a higher involvement of under-represented groups in decision making bodies.

The training is implemented in cooperation with the Swedish Association of Local Authorities and Regions (SALAR).

#### **3.2. Programme objectives**

The programme aims to provide the following changes in the participant:-

- Empower the participant with improved leadership skills;
- Help to fully utilize the power and influence of her position;
- Strengthen her as a role model to encourage political participation among marginalized groups;
- Give her access to a network of women in similar positions; and
- During the training, the participant will work on her change process and implement a strategy to make the local authority equitable, participatory, transparent, and accountable.

### **4. PROGRAMME STRUCTURE**


#### **4.1. Women's Political Leadership 2023**

The training consists of three compulsory workshops over a 12 month period from January to December 2023. The details are as follows:-.

##### **When?**

1. The inception workshop will be held in February 2023 (5 days including travel);
2. The Swedish Phase workshop will take place in May-June 2023 (2 weeks in Sweden including travels).
3. The Final workshop will take place in December 2023 (5 days including travels).

##### **Where?**

- All workshops except the Sweden Phase workshop will be held in the participating countries. The Sweden Phase workshop will be carried out in Sweden.
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## Target?

- ICLD will prioritize applicants holding the position of Mayor or Deputy Mayor but may also consider other applicants who are Councillors.

## 5. Certificate

Participants who successfully complete all scheduled parts will be awarded a Certificate of completion of training.

## 6. Cost for the programmes

All training costs pertaining to lectures, literature, documentation, study tours and certain social activities as well as accommodation and food are covered by ICLD. All international travel costs related to the programme will be covered by ICLD.

## 7. Application Processes

More information about the programme and access to the online application can be found at:

<https://icld.se/en/international-programmes/the-programmes/itp-local-political-leaders-capacitating-women-in-politics/>

**N.B. Closing date for applications is 9 September 2022.**

To access the application page, see below:

<https://response.questback.com/isa/qbv.dll/bylink?p=jX2HGdaXkf9eRHKTHaWZmTJqrfvCpOYTMycq51PCHlcJ3wueArGCJaAIY6lx9cdq0>

Any enquiries on the above can be directed to the following people:

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Yours sincerely



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**LANCE JOEL**  
**CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER (ACTING)**