Live Learning Experience: Beyond the Immediate Response to the Outbreak

Third Thematic Session - Learning with Local Government Associations: multiplying and upscaling of measures

Thursday 09.04.2020, 15:00 – 17:00 CEST

For more information policy@uclg.org

#BeyondTheOutbreak
SOUTH AFRICAN LOCAL GOVERNMENT RESPONSE TO CURB THE SPREAD OF COVID-19
5 March 2020 – first case of COVID-19 detected

- 38-year-old male who travelled to Italy with his wife & returned on 1 March ’20

15 March 2020 –
Number of Infections: 61
Number of Deaths: 0

- State of National Disaster Declared;
- Introduction of stringent measures

23 March 2020 –
Number of Infections: 402
Number of Deaths: 0

- National 21 day Lockdown Declared;
- More Stringent Lockdown Measures Introduced

8 April 2020 - Number of Infections: 1,749
Number of Deaths: 13
Lobbied National Government to:

- Promulgate the Regulations to mitigate against municipalities not being able to meet legislative requirements (approval of draft budgets, public consultation processes, municipal council meetings where the number exceed 100 persons);
- Issue funding mechanisms to assist with financing municipal commitments to curb the COVID-19 spread.
- Developed communication platforms with Mayors and Municipal Managers through use social media;
- Developed reporting template to track municipal responses to the COVID-19 pandemic – use to lobby for additional funding;
- Partnered with the Private Sector to direct support to Municipalities.

**SALGA interventions implemented**
• There is a challenge with the acquisition of supplies of gloves, masks and sanitizers.

• COVID-19 is placing tremendous pressure on Local Authorities’ limited resources, exacerbated with low payment collection levels due to the lockdown.

• Communication tools to assist with spreading the message to rural areas with limited access to internet/cellphone networks.

International solidarity opportunities
1. INTERGOVERNMENTAL COOPERATION: Improved relations and ability to work in partnership with other sphere/levels of government;

2. PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP: Improved relations with the public sector to partnership with government in responding to challenges;

3. FUNDING: Review of Funding Mechanism to be more dynamic and responsive instead of cumbersome and time-consuming.

4. CAPACITY: Improved capacity of local authorities to respond to Disasters.
THANK YOU!