



UCLG AFRICA  
United Cities and Local Governments of Africa  
Cités et Gouvernements Locaux Unis d'Afrique  
CGLU AFRIQUE

THE VOICE  
OF LOCAL AFRICA



# KNOWLEDGE MANAGEMENT IN THE CONTINENT OF AFRICA DURING THE PANDEMIC

KM EXCHANGE 2021

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**United Cities and Local Governments of Africa** acronym **UCLG Africa** is: 51 national associations of local and regional governments, 2000 cities that are direct members, and more than three hundred and fifty million inhabitants.

The vision of UCLG Africa: “**Building African Unity from, and Driving African Development through the Grassroots**”

UCLG Africa is also 44 men and women from 19 African nationalities working in the headquarter and in the 5 regional offices.



UCLG Africa is working on becoming a one stop shop and entry point to local Africa by 2030 as a result of the implementation of its updated long-term strategic plan: Governance, Advocacy & Decentralized Development Program for Africa (GADDEPA 2.0)

PRIORITIES AREAS	 Local Economy And Finance	 Gender and Youth	 Climate, Biodiversity and Food Systems	 Basic Services and SDGs	 Migration	 Culture	 Peace and Security
PILLARS	<b>I ADVOCACY AND MOBILIZATION, 20 % of the interventions</b>		<b>II CAPACITY BUILDING AND KNOWLEDGE MANAGEMENT, 30 % of the interventions</b>	<b>III ACCESS TO FINANCE AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE TO LRGS AND THEIR NATIONAL ASSOCIATIONS, 50 % of the interventions</b>			



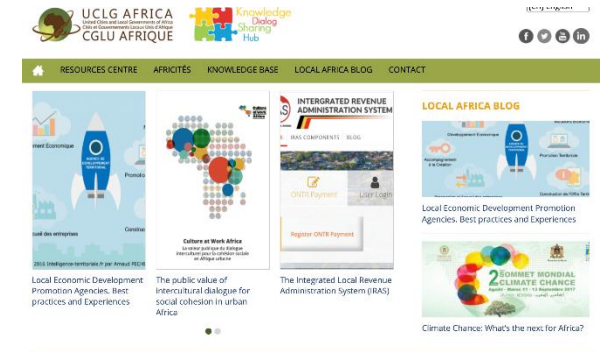
# UCLG AFRICA'S KM OFFER (1/3)

## i) Knowledge Hub

- More than 8 000 thematic documentation resources
- 5 Knowledge Bases and 4 others under development
- An online blog
- Wikis on economy, finance, culture, peace, migration, gender, young, etc. on the pipes

## ii) Africa Local Government Academy (ALGA)

## iii) The Institutional Environment of Local and Regional Governments in Africa (CEE Rating)



<https://www.knowledge-uclga.org/?lang=en>

### Criteria for Evaluating Countries Based on the Favourable Enabling Environment they Offer to Cities and a Presentation of the Ratings

- Provisions in the constitutional framework;
- Provisions in the legislative framework;
- Provisions on local governance;
- Provisions on financial transfers from the central government to the local authorities;
- Provisions concerning local authorities' own revenues;
- Provisions on capacity building for local authorities;
- Provisions on transparency in the operation and management of local authorities;
- Provisions on citizen participation;
- Provisions regarding local and regional government performance;
- The presence or absence of a national strategy to manage urbanisation;
- Taking into account gender equality;
- The involvement or non-involvement of local and regional governments in the fight against climate change.

\*The last two indicators, were added from the 3rd edition onwards.

For each indicator, the maximum score is 4 and the minimum score is 1.



## UCLG AFRICA'S KM OFFER (2/3)

- iv) 2 observatories on local finance and human capital and one on basic services in the pipes
- v) 2 elected networks: REFELA and YE-LO
- vi) 5 professionals networks : LEDNA, MagNet, FinNet, TechNet and HR-Net
- vii) Africities Summit. Data from the last edition: 8300 participants, 77 countries including 53 African countries, 3000 elected representatives, mayors and other leaders, 20 ministers, +150 sessions, +40 partners
- viii) ECOLOC, an instrument to measure wealth created at the level of cities and territories.



## UCLG AFRICA'S KM OFFER (3/3)

In 2020 we produced:

- i) 43 compendium, 41 analytical reports and 34 roadmap in the preparation to the dialogue to participate in the 2021-2021 cooperation funding (NDICI) of UE as an autonomous sphere of governance alongside the national level.
- ii) COVID-19 in African cities impacts, responses and policies recommendations

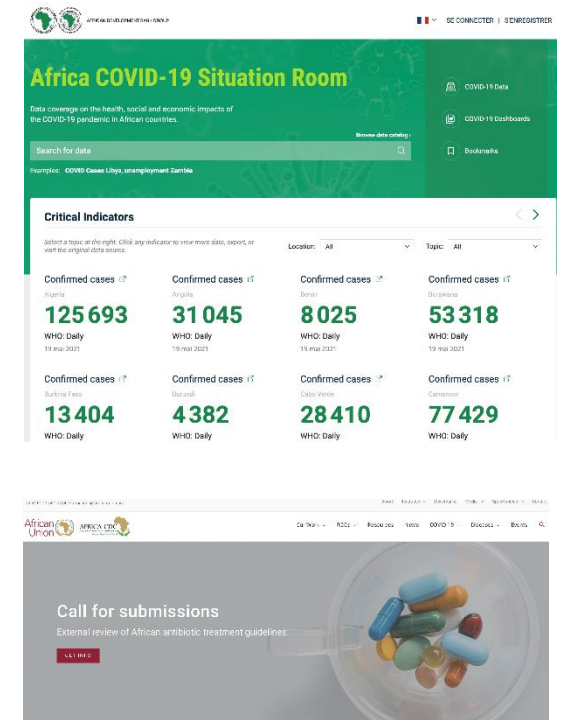


# KM IN THE CONTINENT OF AFRICA (1/3)

## i) AfDB: Africa COVID-19 Situation Room.

Statistics on:

- Demographic and Health indicators are available and regularly updated.
- Economy and Poverty indicators are available but not up to date.



## ii) African Union: Africa CDC. An active KM community who is focusing on public health. Several knowledge products are available.

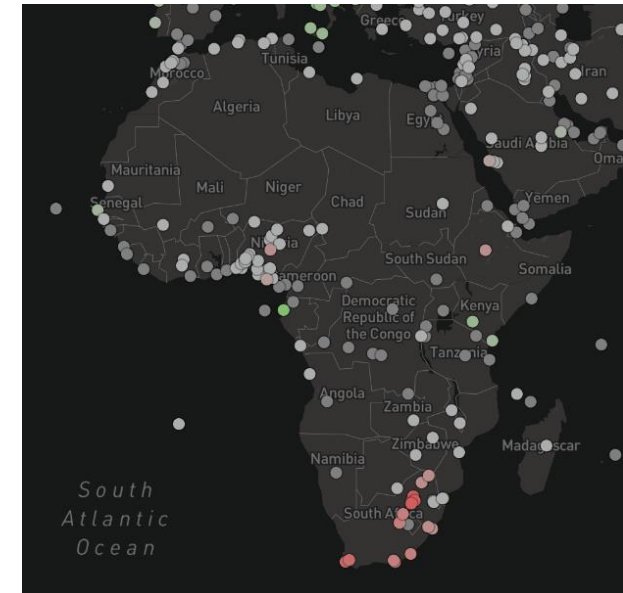


## KM IN THE CONTINENT OF AFRICA (2/3)

iii UCLG, UCLG Africa: GOLD V 2019 – The localization of the global agendas – Africa Region

iv UN-Habitat: City index. COVID-19 readiness and response. 131 African cities (most represented cities in Africa are from South Africa, Nigeria and Egypt)

4 considerations: Spread response, Treatment response, Economic response and Supply Chain response.





# KM IN THE CONTINENT OF AFRICA (3/3)

## LESSONS FROM THE CRISIS



- No one was ready, for a crisis of this magnitude.
- The crisis has highlighted the urgent need for knowledge in order to take urgent and healthy decisions.
- After the shock, the response to the crisis showed that we could do better with more knowledge.
- The crisis invites us to use our collective intelligence and take advantage of the lessons learned in recent months.



## KM IN LOCAL AND REGIONAL GOVERNMENTS (1/2)

Four possible ways to have an effective KM in cities that UCLG Africa is defending:

- i. Take advantage of our collective intelligence to write the narrative of the cities based on the views of the cities (we need to take advantage of artificial intelligence to collect data).
- ii. Give more importance to working in cooperation –collaboration–, sharing pool resources and co-creating to inform, influence and interest.



## KM IN LOCAL AND REGIONAL GOVERNMENTS (2/2)

- iii. Creating a continental network of knowledge management practitioners for and by cities (an active community of practices must be a task that concerns all of us)
- iv. Embrace the posture of knowledge coaches in our organizations and communities. Coaching each person to produce and use knowledge for their own and the community's development.



**“KNOWLEDGE IS LIKE A GARDEN; IF IT IS NOT CULTIVATED, THEN IT CANNOT BE HARVESTED”**

African Proverb

**Thank You**

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