International Geographical Union
Commission on Geography of Governance

&

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INSTITUTIONAL CONFERENCE
Local Government and Urban Governance
Citizen Responsive Innovations
in Europe and Africa

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Conference Venue
Institute of Geography and Spatial Planning
University of Lisbon
Lisbon, Portugal
The 2015 Annual Conference of the IGU Commission on ‘Geography of Governance’ (IGU-GoG), to be held in Lisbon, Portugal, 9 - 10 April 2015, at the Institute of Geography and Spatial Planning – University of Lisbon, aims to explore recent developments in local government and urban governance in Europe and in Africa, challenges and opportunities confronting local government, and the recent reforms and institutional experiments on both continents.

We welcome proposals for papers on any aspect of the broad area of local /urban governance, but would particularly encourage papers on three main themes.

**Participation & Selection criteria**

Participation in the conference requires the presentation of a paper

The working language of the conference will be English

All submissions will be peer-reviewed for content and appropriateness to this conference

**Expected Outcomes**

One of the expected outcomes of the conference is the publication of a selection of papers in a book and in peer-reviewed scholarly journals

**PROGRAMME**

Theme 1 - Local Government and Urban Governance in Europe: the impact of austerity, recent reforms and the role of local government in an 'EU Urban Agenda'

Theme 2 - Local Government and Urban Governance in Africa: democratic decentralization, good governance and the role of local government in the ‘Post-2015 Agenda’

Theme 3 – The use of ICT to expand the role of citizens in Urban Governance: national cases and international comparisons

The conference is opened to participants coming from all around the world although we aim to focus mainly on Europe and Africa.

We welcome both country reports and international comparisons on the new challenges and opportunities confronting local government, in particular in Europe and in Africa.

The conference is organized in panels according to topics and issues.

If necessary, contact us to discuss any ideas that you might have for a paper on these or on other related issues, even if with a focus outside Europe or Africa.

**Important dates**

Abstracts: 15 December 2014

Acceptance notification: 5 January 2015

Registration & Payment: 6 - 20 January 2015