GLOBAL PARTNERSHIP FOR SOCIAL ACCOUNTABILITY

RESULTS FRAMEWORK

DRAFT [i]

December 3, 2012

Abbreviations and Acronyms

CSO   Civil society organization

GAC   Governance and anticorruption

GPSA Global Partnership for Social Accountability

IEG   Independent Evaluation Group

3iE   International Initiative for Impact Evaluation

KP   GPSA Knowledge Platform for Social Accountability

M&E   Monitoring and evaluation

NGO Nongovernmental organization

RF   GPSA Results Framework

SA   Social Accountability

SC   Steering Committee

SIEF   Strategic Impact Evaluation Fund

TOC   Theory of Change

WBI   World Bank Institute

Contents

A. Introduction

1.   The Global Partnership for Social Accountability (GPSA) is a global multi-stakeholder coalition, a global partnership of donors and development actors that aims to increase levels of accountability at the country level. Its main objective is to improve development results by supporting capacity building for enhanced beneficiary feedback and participation. *"Social Accountability"* has been defined as "an approach towards building government's responsiveness that relies on civic engagement whereby ordinary citizens and/or civil society organizations participate directly or indirectly in achieving accountability"[1]

2,   The GPSA is expected to contribute to country-level governance reforms and improved service delivery. To achieve this, the GPSA plans to provide strategic and sustained support to beneficiary groups and CSOs in developing countries that are working with their governments, to promote greater transparency and accountability. To do this GPSA would be operating on two fronts: funding and knowledge.

3.   Grants will be available for *programmatic support to CSOs for social accountability* (grants to CSOs and networks of CSOs working in countries that have opted-in to GPSA for .SA initiatives undertaken by CSOs to strengthen transparency and accountability; core funding to support institutional development of CSOs working on SA; and Recipient or Bank-executed grants for mentoring, technical assistance and capacity-building on SA) and for *support of knowledge activities* (including supporting knowledge and learning activities carried out under Component 1 grants; and a Knowledge Platform for Social Accountability developed and managed by the GPSA, which will include targeted support for knowledge-generation and exchange activities, and strengthening of practitioners' networks and communities of practice at the regional and global levels). GPSA will make grants for periods of 3-5 years, with disbursement tranches linked to agreed project milestones. GPSA funding will be channeled through a Multidonor Trust Fund to which the World Bank will contribute US\$ 5 million annually from FY13 through FY16, bringing the Bank's total commitment to \$20 million. GPSA will also support a global platform for knowledge exchange which will include developing and nurturing practitioner networks, especially those aimed at supporting South-South exchanges.

4.   Each activity funded by the GPSA is intended to yield measurable and realistic results in one or more of the following "pillars of governance": transparency; representation and voice; accountability; and learning for improved results. Key social accountability activities or approaches that could be supported would include (but will not be limited to) budget literacy campaigns, citizen charters, citizen report cards, community contracting, community management and/or contracting, community oversight, community scorecards, grievance redress mechanisms, independent budget analysis, input or expenditure tracking, integrity pacts,

---

[1] http://wbi.worldbank.org/wbi/content/citizen-participation-through-social-accountability

participatory budgeting, participatory physical audits, procurement monitoring, public access to information legislation, social audits, and user management committees.

5.   These different activities, corresponding to social accountability tools, are expected to be conducive to beneficiary engagement in monitoring and assessing government performance—particularly in providing feedback on, and voicing demand for, improved service delivery—and thus contributing to greater development effectiveness. This kind of engagement— *social accountability*—enables beneficiaries and civil society groups to engage with policymakers and service providers to bring about greater accountability and responsiveness to beneficiary needs. At the same time, many factors—especially the proliferation of new information and communications technologies—are changing how beneficiaries and civil society organizations (CSOs) engage with governments; and many governments are creating better enabling environments for voice, transparency, and accountability. However, feedback from over 1,000 stakeholders in all regions indicates that there are large knowledge and evidence gaps, especially in terms of "what works" and why, under what conditions approaches can be scaled up, and how to sustain successful approaches. Moreover, civil society groups often operate on short programmatic funding cycles, and they lack the sustained support to build technical and institutional capacity to engage with governments over the long term on selected themes. The Global Partnership for Social Accountability (GPSA) attempts to respond to these demands.

6.   Thus, the GPSA is a new Partnership designed to provide strategic and sustained support to beneficiary groups and CSOs in developing countries that are working to promote greater transparency and accountability, and achieve stronger development results. GPSA is expected to contribute to country-level governance reforms and improved service delivery by (a) generating knowledge, networking and financing to build civil society's capacity to engage in evidence-based social accountability; (b) supporting Bank teams and government counterparts in embedding social accountability more strategically in their programs; and (c) contributing to scaling up the Bank's engagement in this area by drawing on the experience, knowledge and resources of external partners.

7.   It is to be noted that there are several WB initiatives on themes closely related to social accountability, such as the World Bank Institute's Capacity Development and Results Practice, as well as some that are under development, like the "Public Sector Performance At A Glance". If in the design of the RF for GPSA, and during its implementation, these initiatives are not taken into account, there is a risk of overlapping or of inconsistencies. But, at the same time, they offer an opportunity for synergies, and a knowledge capital that GPSA can benefit from. Furthermore, there are also WB evaluations, particularly the assessment of "The World Bank's Involvement in Global and Regional Partnership Programs" and "The World Bank's Country-Level Engagement on Governance and Anticorruption", which provide valuable insights for GPSA. Finally, the work of other development agencies on related issues, such as DFID, has also been considered. The results framework for GPSA attempts to take into account these important sources of lessons from experience.

4

B.   Results Areas, Indicators and Sources of Information

8.   Based on the description provided in the previous section, the GPSA Board paper, and other relevant experiences mentioned in the preceding pages, the results framework for GPSA is presented in this section.

9.   GPSA's Results Framework is a tool that will be used to monitor and manage progress and report on delivery. It sets out the outcomes GPSA is seeking to contribute to, the results it plans to deliver, and the metrics to be used. By collecting data and measuring results it is possible to know what is working and what is not, adapting and developing an approach over time to become more effective. Furthermore, the results framework also facilitates evaluations at different stages of implementation.

10.   A key hypothesis is that the effectiveness of different SA mechanisms or interventions depend on the context (the "heterogeneity" hypothesis). GPSA should contribute to generate (and systematize) evidence on which SA mechanisms are more effective in which contexts. On this and related issues, see below (section D, note 5) the reference to Mansuri and Rao.

11.   As the GAC Strategy Update will be tracking progress on several indicators that corresponds to the outcome/impact level, GPSA could mainly focus on the direct measurement of its outputs (for whose achievement it is accountable), which can contribute to country-level development results, complementing this measurement with the set of M&E activities indicated below (paras. 26-29), in order to link outputs with outcome and impact at the grant-level, and systematic reviews for the partnership as a whole. The SA knowledge and capacity building outputs supported by GPSA could contribute the higher level indicators that GAC will be tracking, as shown in the following scheme:

GPSA inputs → GPSA outputs → GPSA outcomes → GPSA impacts
[------fully tracked by GPSA---]   [--------tracked by GAC---------------]
complemented by GPSA's M&E

Results Areas

12.   GPSA is structured in four "results areas", which correspond to its "governance pillars".

Transparency: people able to access and use information on government activities

Representation and voice: people have mechanisms and/or policies through which they can engage in government processes.
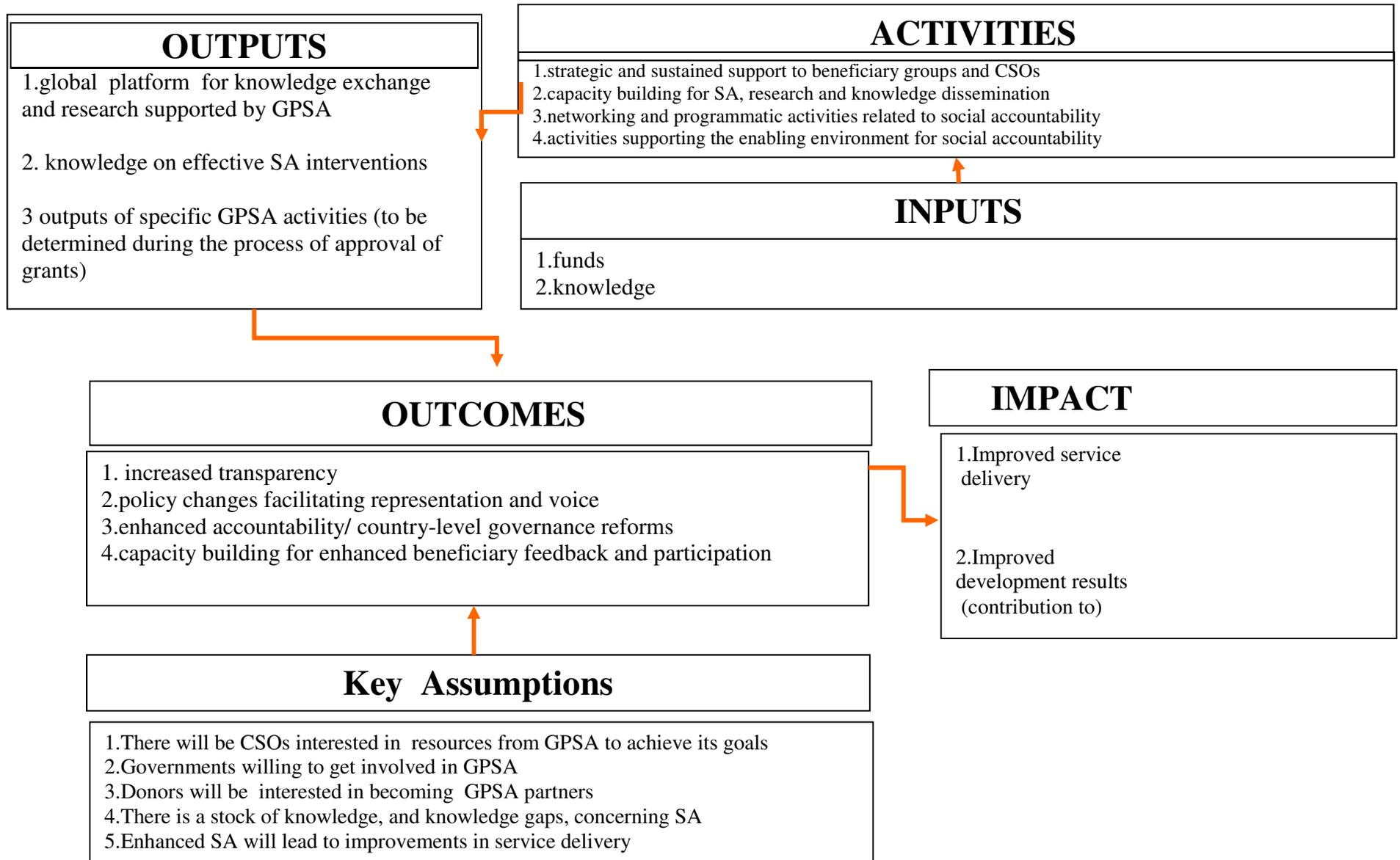
Accountability: governments are more accountable to beneficiaries in service delivery and in management of public resources.

Learning for Improved Results: improved knowledge and practice of social accountability.

13.   The first three areas can be considered as a menu from which country teams might want to draw from, in consultation with Civil Society, without having to cover each area in every country. The specific results will need to be tailored to country context.

14.   These results areas are presented in GPSA's "theory of change" as (intermediate) outcomes. The diagram also shows critical assumptions and the pathways from resources to impacts, including development results to which GPSA may contribute but that cannot be attributed only to it. The critical assumptions can also be used as a key input for risk management.

GPSA's THEORY OF CHANGE

OUTPUTS

1.global platform for knowledge exchange and research supported by GPSA

2. knowledge on effective SA interventions

3 outputs of specific GPSA activities (to be determined during the process of approval of grants)

ACTIVITIES

1.strategic and sustained support to beneficiary groups and CSOs
2.capacity building for SA, research and knowledge dissemination
3.networking and programmatic activities related to social accountability
4.activities supporting the enabling environment for social accountability

INPUTS

1.funds
2.knowledge

OUTCOMES

1. increased transparency
2.policy changes facilitating representation and voice
3.enhanced accountability/ country-level governance reforms
4.capacity building for enhanced beneficiary feedback and participation

IMPACT

1.Improved service delivery

2.Improved development results (contribution to)

Key Assumptions

1.There will be CSOs interested in resources from GPSA to achieve its goals
2.Governments willing to get involved in GPSA
3.Donors will be interested in becoming GPSA partners
4.There is a stock of knowledge, and knowledge gaps, concerning SA
5.Enhanced SA will lead to improvements in service delivery

15.   In order to operationalize the results framework it is necessary to identify a set of indicators corresponding to the different levels of the "results chain" (except the higher level corresponding to development results) included in the "theory of change" (TOC). This is done below, making use as much as possible of existing indicators and available data sources, as well as those that can be constructed using data that will be generated by GPSA's operations. It should be noted that whereas the indicated outputs are fully dependent on GPSA (and therefore GPSA is accountable for achieving them), the outcomes and impact depend crucially on the role of other interventions and exogenous factors. Furthermore, the links between outputs and outcomes, as well as between outcomes and impact, are covered by other WB initiatives (such as those under the GAC strategy), as well as by research projects.

16.   Finally, complementing the general key assumptions included in the TOC diagram, the following are additional assumptions concerning what leads from one stage to another: i) *from activities to outputs*: the knowledge component activities (1-3) will help to establish a global platform for knowledge exchange and research (output 1), assuming that CSOs would be interested to participate in such a platform; knowledge on effective SA interventions for different contexts would result from the implementation of activities (1-3) assuming that a M&E system (along the lines described in the following section of this paper) is fully functional. ii) *from outputs to outcomes*: activities supporting the enabling environment for SA (4) combined with capacity building activities (2) and outputs (1), (2) and (3) would lead to outcomes (1-4) assuming that the knowledge generated and disseminated is relevant, that governments would be willing, or sufficiently pressured, to undertake governance reforms and to become more accountable; it is also assumed that SA capacity building activities will be effective. iii) *from outcomes to impact*:   outcomes (1-4) would contribute to improved service delivery and development effectiveness assuming that demand pressure on government services resulting from the achievement of those outcome would lead to enhanced quality of government services and to greater development effectiveness. On this last set of links, there is evidence from research and ongoing work by (among others) the World Bank GAC strategy, as well as on the work leading to (and spawned by) the 2004 World Development Report ("Making Services Work for Poor People"). On ii), the evidence is thin (see endnote 5), and GPSA can and should contribute to it, as indicated below in paras. 30-32.

Indicators and sources of information

17.   Given that GPSA will operate at the global, country and project level, the results framework includes indicators corresponding to these three levels. The indicators are focused on quantitative aspects, which would be complemented by the qualitative information to be provided by the activities indicated in the section on M&E.

Global level
18.   This level is basically related to the fourth results area, i.e., "Learning for improved results", which at the global level boils down to the generation of the global public good of knowledge on social accountability. Furthermore, aspects related to GPSA as a whole are also included in this level.

Country level

19.   There is an abundance of data sources corresponding to different aspects of SA at the country level, such as Governance-at-a-Glance and Demand for Good Governance indicators (AGI Data Portal), WBI's CDR, the Open Budget Index, Afrobarometer, Latinobarometro, for IDA countries the last of the CPIA criteria, i.e., "Transparency, Accountability, and Corruption in the Public Sector", IEG GAC country data[2], World Bank indicators developed for GAC-II on government openness; CPARs, WBI Worldwide Governance Indicators and the Open Transparency Index.[3] Table 1, below, selects among these sources those which are more adequate given their periodicity and coverage. However, in specific country cases, some of the other sources mentioned above may also be suitable. Furthermore, there are countries where local sources of data on transparency are available. These sources can be tapped particularly in the elaboration of country or thematic case studies, as indicated in the section on M&E.

Social Accountability Index

20..   As the GPSA matures, one may consider the design of a social accountability index. The first three areas of the indicators at the country level, (transparency, participation and accountability) could be combined into an index of social accountability (ISA). This index could get countries to care more about social accountability and to identify trends. Eventually an ISA report could be prepared annually by a global NGO or CSO, with support from partners, at a later stage of GPSA's implementation.

Project level

21.   Each project/ grant funded by GPSA should indicate in their applications the result area(s) to which it expects to contribute, targets for its outputs specifying their timeframe, the set of activities in which they plan to use the resources provided by GPSA, the links between activities outputs and outcomes, the current levels of these variables (which will be the *baselines*) and their implementation strategy. GPSA could develop a web based application that projects/grants could (and should) utilize for their own management and monitoring as well as to feed GPSA's monitoring and reporting. This would be a sort of self-organizing system, minimizing the time needed from GPSA's Secretariat.

22.   An important source of information will be the records of activities supported by GPSA. Therefore, it is necessary to ensure that the designs of grants/activities to be funded by GPSA indicate clearly their output and outcome indicators before they are approved, as indicated in the preceding paragraph, and that they complete the collection of *baseline* data (complementing the data presented in the application form, if need be) during their first 6 months of operations. During the first three months of operations, formats for reporting results and data should be established, and to assure the quality of self-reported data the reports will be systematically reviewed by peer organizations and/or GPSA staff. It would be convenient to include in GPSA's Operations Manual both the formats and the requested information mentioned in the preceding paragraph.

---

[2] See Appendix A of IEG(2011) evaluation of the World Bank's country-level engagement on governance and anti-corruption (GAC)

[3] The Civicus Civil Society Index is not included because it has been discontinued since 2006.

Table 1: Summary of Indicators, Sources of Information and Periodicity

INDICATORS	SOURCES OF INFORMATION	PERIODICITY
Input indicators 1.Total funds disbursed by category of disbursement 2. Disbursements by sources of funds 2.1 WB resources 2.2 Partners's funds	GPSA records	Real-time
Output indicators 1.*global platform for* *knowledge exchange* *supported by GPSA*	GPSA knowledge component	Annual
1.1 global platform for SA knowledge codification and exchange established and running	GPSA knowledge component	Annual
1.2 number of peer reviewed SA knowledge products	e-survey	Annual
1.3 number of users of SA knowledge products	Ad-hoc study	Annual
1.4 strengthened SA practitioner networks at global level	GPSA records	real-time
1.5 number of countries that opted-in	GPSA records	Annual
2. *knowledge on effective SA* *interventions* 2.1 number of thematic/synthesis reviews	e-survey to CSOs	Biannual
2.2 number of CSO's aware of which SA interventions are effective in what contexts	GPSA records	Annual
3. *CSOs SA Capacity Building* 3.1 Number of CSOs that	GPSA records	Annual

participated in GPSA's capacity building activities		
3.2 Amount and number of mentoring grants	GPSA records	Annual
4. Number of Bank teams and government counterparts supported in embedding social accountability more strategically in their programs/projects	Grants' records	Annual
5. Outputs of specific GPSA activities (to be determined during the process of grants approval)	Grants' records	Annual
Outcome indicators *1. increased transparency* public availability of key budget documents	Open Budget Index,	Same as that of the Open Budget Survey
2.Civil Society Participation	Governance-at-a-Glance and Demand for Good Governance indicators (AGI Data Portal-Governance Reports)	Annual
3.Voice and Accountability	ditto	
4.capacity building for enhanced beneficiary feedback and participation 4..1 number of CSOs capable of facilitating beneficiary participation and feedback on service delivery 4.2 number of CSOs that actually facilitated beneficiary participation and feedback on service delivery 4.3 number of service providers whose service delivery was improved due to	Country case studies	

beneficiary feedback and participation 4.4 number of CSOs whose prospects for sustainability were enhanced 4.5 number of CSOs that used knowledge outputs generated by GPSA		

Outcome indicators and case studies

23.   As indicated in the preceding table, for some indicators the source of information will be case studies (country and thematic). These case studies could complement the information provided by indicators with an analysis and synthesis of a set of issues such as the following: the extent to which Civil Society (CS), government and other stakeholders have improved knowledge and capacity to harness social accountability for better development outcomes; the degree to which Citizens are engaged in monitoring of service delivery and public resource management; the extent to which Citizens' priorities are reflected in policy and decision-making (looking at levels of engagement and where this has changed policy and practice), and the extent to which government authorities value the participation of citizens in achieving effective service delivery; participation of CS in public policy discussions; use by CS of grievances mechanisms and collective action behaviour induced by GPSA's supported CSOs. and development by CSOs supported by GPSA of associations representing CS

Performance indicators

24.   In addition to the indicators corresponding shown in the table, to assess the performance of GPSA the following indicators are proposed (to be reported on annual bases, using GPSA's records):
 1. number of partners involved;
 2. number and amount (disbursed) of grants
 3. number of mentoring grants,
 4. number of countries that opted-in
 5. number of grant applications
 6. number of CSOs which GPSA supported

Dissemination Strategy and Knowledge Sharing to facilitate use and decision making

25.   The results framework can be used to communicate the progress and problems in achieving results. One way of presenting results is through a "dashboard," highlighting the key high-level objectives and outcomes/outputs achieved, using the framework for planning and review meetings (with the current status of the indicators highlighted), and using the change in the indicators from baseline to highlight the results.

C. GPSA's M&E system

26. Evaluations and reviews of global partnership programs have identified as a recurrent problem of these programs the lack of a monitoring and evaluation system (M&E)[4]. Without M&E neither learning nor accountability can be adequately conducted, thus jeopardizing the quality and value of the programs.

27. An M&E for GPSA can be developed taking into account the Results Framework, including selective impact evaluations & systematic reviews or meta-studies as well as real-time M&E, collecting feedback from governments and grantees to facilitate learning and adaptation,

28. The three levels mentioned in the previous section should be considered as forming part of the M&E system. Starting from the project/grant(micro) level, i.e., activities funded by GPSA, periodic results oriented reports (RORs) should be presented by the implementing entities (mainly CSOs), showing the extent to which their projects are contributing to enhanced transparency, participation, and/or accountability. The project reports and/or notes should include evidence and stories of success and failure, indicating the way in which learning is taking place, and how government responds to the interventions. To the extent that the reporting format used at this level complies with the indications provided in the previous section, the consolidation by GPSA's Secretariat of individual reports will be possible and aggregation will become feasible, minimizing the burden on CSOs. The information at this micro-level can be used to track goals, highlighting achievements and problems, operating as a real-time monitoring and self-evaluation system, using a participatory process to collect feedback from government and grantees, and generating information which can be used to allow for timely corrective actions.

29. Complementing this self-monitoring and evaluation subsystem, there should be a set of impact evaluations geared to knowledge generation of different interventions in various contexts. These evaluations would be contracted out by GPSA's secretariat, promoting the use of rigorous methods such as randomized control trials whenever possible (the implementation strategy of some grants can make RCTs both feasible and ethically acceptable, allowing for the identification of comparison groups), with explicit counterfactuals, and also other methods. The use of complementary approaches (quantitative and qualitative) will maximize the gains that each method offers, exploiting their complementarities and allowing for cross-validation (triangulation). Adequate consideration should be given to the context and the processes followed, in order to allow judgments concerning the generalizability (external validity) of the findings and a deeper understanding of the causes leading to results, both positive and negative, so as to facilitate learning from success and from failure.

---

[4] See See IEG (2011) *An Independent Assessment The World Bank's Involvement in Global and Regional Partnership Programs* Washington DC www.globalevaluations.org
and Bezanson, Keith A. & Paul Isenman (2012) *Governance of New Global Partnerships: Challenges, Weaknesses and Lessons* Washington DC: Center for Global Development

<u>Linking GPSA grants with research</u>
30.   GPSA could draw on a set of experts from a roster to provide advice to grantees on how to structure their data collection and implementation strategy so as to maximize the learning that can be obtained from the intervention funded by GPSA, thus connecting implementers and researchers at the design stage, optimizing the contribution that GPSA can make to answer the research question "Under what circumstances different types of SA mechanisms contribute to better development outcomes?". Country priorities may also be in some cases a source of research questions concerning SA mechanisms which would be worthwhile for GPSA to take into account.

31.   For the country (meso) level activities and the global (macro) level, case studies could be carried out after the third year of operations, using and reviewing GPSA's "theory of change". A common template could be developed for the case studies in order to facilitate a comparative analysis and synthesis.

32.   Furthermore, given GPSA's rationale in terms of knowledge generation, it is important to carry out systematic reviews of evidence or meta-studies, which could be done using the approach of the 3iE initiative.[5] This work, as well as other outputs of the M&E system, and of GPSA's knowledge component, could be used by the research community to expand the frontier of validated knowledge concerning the effectiveness of social accountability.

33..   The preceding types of evaluations will be key inputs for an independent evaluation, allowing for learning and accountability, as GPSA evolves. [6]

<u>Responsibilities for monitoring and evaluation</u>
34.   *Monitoring and self-evaluation* is a management responsibility, involving the assessment of progress achieved, tracking compliance with a plan, identifying reasons for non-compliance, proposing and taking actions to improve performance. *Independent evaluation* is a governance responsibility. As recommended by IEG's assessment of global partnership programs (see above footnote 2) it is important that the Partnership governing body (Steering Committee) takes ownership of independent evaluation. The first independent external evaluations should be carried out 4-5 years after program starts.

<u>Resources for GPSA's M&E system</u>
35.   In addition to a specific allocation of resources for M&E from GPSA's budget, for some impact evaluation activities it would be worthwhile to try to tap resources from the recently established HDN managed "Strategic Impact Evaluation Fund" and for systematic reviews funds may be potentially available from 3iE.

---

[5] http://www.3ieimpact.org/en/funding/

[6] Appendix G of IEG (2011) *An Independent Assessment The World Bank's Involvement in Global and Regional Partnership Programs* Washington DC provides a list of major evaluation criteria and suggested evaluation questions for global and regional partnership programs evaluations

---

D.   NOTES

14

1.   This draft was prepared by Osvaldo Nestor Feinstein, taking into account the views expressed by a number of Bank and non-Bank colleagues, some of which (Nick Manning, Roland Michelitsch, Anna Aghumian, Samuel Otoo) prepared powerpoint presentations for a workshop that due to weather conditions was cancelled. Their contribution is gratefully acknowledged. Furthermore, suggestions were also received during the November 29th retreat, where comments were provided by Chris Gerrard, Bob Beschel, Roland Michelitsch, Anna Aghumian and Francesca Recanatini, Vivek Srivastava, Jeremy Weinstein, Helene Grandvoinnet, Lester Solomon, Lindsay Coates, Phillip Keefer and Christian Borja Vega. During the preparation of a previous version of this draft, Shiona Ruhemann & Ed Smithson (DFID), Navin Girishankar, Marcos Mendiburu, Maria Poli, and Christian Borja Vega suggested and/or provided useful materials.. Finally, valuable comments on earlier versions of this draft were made by Isabella Toth, Tina George, Ed Smithson and Maggie Carroll (DFID), Tiago Peixoto, Randi Ryterman and Roby Senderowitsch.. Gulnara Febres and Rachel Matheson provided excellent support. **The usual disclaimer applies**.

2.   The higher level outcome/impact indicators corresponds to the World Bank Scorecard Tier I indicators, which show the long-term development outcomes that countries are achieving and cannot be attributed directly to the Bank, because countries and their development partners all contribute to these achievements over the long term through a combination of multisector interventions, actions, and policy decisions. These indicators are also affected by external factors such as global crises (as pointed out in the WB Scorecard 2012).

3.   With respect to the <u>Social Accountability Index</u>, note that it would be possible to elaborate an index with equal weight for the different indicators (what frequently is referred to as an "unweighted" index). If different weights were to be used it is important to provide a rationale for them, making the weights transparent, thus avoiding the problems pointed out in Thomas, Vinod and Xubei Luo (2012) "Multilateral Banks and the Development Process" New Brunswick, Transaction Publishers, chap 4.

4.   For <u>self-evaluation</u> by CSOs the empowerment evaluation approach could be suitable. See Fetterman, D.M. & Wandersman, A.(2005) *Empowerment Evaluation Principles in Practice* New York: Guilford Press whereas "developmental evaluation" is an approach that could be used <u>to support the process of developing appropriate SA practices in different contexts</u>. See Patton, Michael (2010) *Developmental Evaluation* New York: Guilford Press. It is neither "summative evaluation", which makes judgments on the worth of the interventions implemented, nor "formative evaluations", which attempts to improve interventions that were fully designed, based on accepted theories. "Developmental evaluation" corresponds to situations in which, as stated by Taleb, N. (2012) "we don't put theories into practice. We create theories out of practice" *Antifragile* New York: Random House

5.   Concerning <u>meta-studies</u>, as pointed out in a recent article, there is a need to conduct studies on different types of participatory governance institutions from a broad range of countries and regions, including meta-analysis of case studies and comparative analysis. See Speer, J. (December 2012) "Participatory Governance Reform: A Good Strategy for Increasing

Government Responsiveness and Improving Public Services", *World Development,* Vol.40/12. A recent review of experiences of participatory development is provided in Mansuri, G. and Rao, V. (2013) *Localizing Development: Does Participation Work* Washington DC: World Bank Policy Research Report, which includes several findings that are relevant for GPSA in general and for the results framework in particular, such as the following: a) context, both local and national, is extremely important. Outcomes from interventions are highly variable across communities; local inequality, history, geography, the nature of social interactions, networks, and political systems all have a strong influence; b) Effective civic engagement does not develop along a predictable trajectory, indicating that trajectories of change in local participatory development are uncertain; c) The evidence on many participation-related issues is thin The Mansuri and Rao report recommends, inter alia, that quantitative evaluations would benefit from complementary qualitative work that sheds light on the processes and mechanisms that lead to change

6.   The Strategic Impact Evaluation Fund (SIEF) is a new trust fund established within the World Bank to carry out and support research evaluating the impact of programs on alleviating poverty and improving people's lives. The knowledge generated will provide evidence for designing more effective policies and programs. The multi-donor fund was created with the support of the British government's Department for International Development with a commitment of nearly $40 million. The program, managed by the World Bank's Human Development Network, runs from 2012 up to 2017. See
http://siteresources.worldbank.org/INTHDOFFICE/Resources/5485648-1332253705502/SIEF_Call_for_Proposals_Final.pdf