



Newsletter

NEWS

Sustainable Development Goals: Keeping Citizens at the Center



At 3:30PM (EST) on January 28, we invite you to join us for a Round Table discussion with [Mahmoud Mohieldin](#), Senior Vice President, 2030 Development Agenda and UN Relations and Partnerships at the World Bank, and members of the GPSA [Steering Committee](#) to discuss how citizens can help drive the accountable implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Today, the GPSA seeks to advance the SDGs by helping citizens and governments to address what Amina Mohamed, the UN Secretary-General's Special Adviser on the SDGs, has called "[the one knot we haven't tied](#)": Accountability.

The event will be broadcasted online: live.worldbank.org

RSVP to gpsa@worldbank.org by January 28, 2PM to obtain a visitor's pass to the World Bank.

Join the discussion on Twitter: [@GPSA_org](https://twitter.com/GPSA_org) | [#SocialAcc](https://twitter.com/GPSA_org)

Guatemala Opts-in to the GPSA



The Government of Guatemala informed the World Bank Office in a letter of consent of its decision to opt-in to the GPSA. Civil society organizations in the country have now become eligible to participate in future Calls for Proposals and potentially receive funding for social accountability projects.

This move further signals the progress that the GPSA has been making in Latin America and the Caribbean. The GPSA has significant representation in the region, with 12 opted-in countries, two donors (the Governments of Mexico and the Dominican Republic), and over 40 Global Partners based there. [Where We Operate>>>](#)

Registration for the Global Partners Forum is Now Open !



The annual Global Partners Forum brings together over 250 Global Partners from around the world to provide a space to reflect on theory and practice, and to think together about the future social accountability agenda. The 2016 Forum will focus on understanding three recent trends in social accountability, including the shift in state-civil society engagement towards co-production; the commitment to adaptive learning for improved results; and the focus on building more inclusive institutions. Participants at the Forum will explore the challenges in implementing those trends, and will seek to identify ways for the social accountability field to overcome those obstacles on the path towards achieving impact at scale. [Read more and Register>>>](#)

To learn more about the Global Partners Forum: Read the [2015 Forum Report](#), watch this 2-minute [Impression Video](#), and check out the [photos](#) from last year.

What 3 Years of Lunch Seminars Have Taught Us

The GPSA has hosted a large number of Brown Bag Lunches (BBLs) in which GPSA Partners and Grantees, as well as World Bank colleagues, showcase their social accountability initiatives and research, share some of their learnings and elicit feedback. The GPSA has prepared a short note that takes stock of the discussions and deliberations to see what we have learned to date by reviewing the BBLs, highlighting some of the lessons, and identifying a number of key themes such as citizen engagement, political economy analysis and intervention, and the accountability, legitimacy and financial stability of civil society organizations. [Read more>>>](#)

How to Build & Manage an Online Platform

[Fundar](#) discusses their experience designing, implementing and managing the [Knowledge Platform](#) – a vibrant online social space that provides over 2,000 members with the opportunity to interact, network, share knowledge and learning in the field of social accountability, including some of the most important lessons learned which might be relevant to those designing similar platforms. [Read more>>>](#)

UPCOMING EVENTS

Social Accountability in the Water Sector: Two Illustrative Examples | TBD | This Brown Bag Lunch will outline two projects that illustrate the benefits and challenges of using social accountability strategies to strengthen citizen engagement and citizen-driven accountability in order to address critical water governance challenges in developing countries. Date to be provided soon: www.thegpsa.org/events

Use of Citizen Engagement and Social Accountability Approaches in Mitigating Fraud, Errors and Corruption in Conditional Cash Transfer Programs | TBD | This Brown Bag Lunch will focus on a recent paper by the Partnership for Transparency Fund: “Citizen Engagement and Social Accountability Approaches in Enhancing Integrity of Conditional Cash Transfer Programs” and identify best practices and lessons for greater engagement of citizens and social accountability initiatives. Date to be provided soon: www.thegpsa.org/events

PAST EVENTS

Doing Political Economy Analysis Better: CARE’s Experience | January 26, 2016 | CARE has undertaken political economy assessments in 12 countries located in different regions, such as Peru, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Nepal, Egypt, Uganda, Malawi, DRC, Ethiopia, Zambia, India and Kenya. In this webinar, Tom Aston (Governance Advisor at CARE) shared their experience supporting political economy analysis (PEA) assessments and key lessons learned for making PEA more operationally relevant and thus achieve social and political change. [Read more>>>](#)

Financing Social Accountability through Private Investors: Exploring Impact Bonds | Dec 16, 2015 | This Brown Bag Lunch discussed the feasibility and the potential role of “Impact Bonds” in improving the effectiveness of social accountability projects. [Read more and watch the recording>>>](#)

GPSA GLOBAL PARTNERS

Since our last edition, the Latin American and Caribbean Network for Democracy (REDLAD) has joined the GPSA partnership. [View the complete list of 270 partners here >>](#)



The Latin American and Caribbean Network for Democracy, known as Red Latinoamericana y del Caribe para la Democracia (REDLAD) in Spanish, acts as a platform to share information, best practices and strategies regarding democracy and human rights in the region. It comprises of more than 480 civil society organizations in addition to academics, activists and other networks.

IN OTHER NEWS...

The Centre for Accountability Research is Hiring

There is an opening for Associate Director in the new start-up spear-headed by Dr. Jonathan Fox, Centre for Accountability Research at American University in Washington, DC. The center will partner with public interest groups in the global South that are working on issues of transparency, citizen participation and public accountability. [Learn more>>>](#)

InterAction is looking for a Vice President for Global Development Practice

InterAction's former VP for Global Development Practice Laura Frigenti was appointed by Italian Prime Minister Matteo Renzi to head the new Italian Agency for Development Cooperation, therefore there is an immediate opening for her replacement. The VP of Global Development Practice would lead InterAction's efforts to promote a focus on global poverty and the role of effective development through global advocacy and strategic partnerships. [Learn more>>>](#)

InterAction Names New President

Lindsay Coates, a member of the GPSA Steering Committee, was recently appointed as InterAction's President. She previously served as Executive Vice President. [Learn more about InterAction>>>](#)

Making All Voices Count Appoints Programme Director

Dr. Fletcher Tembo was appointed to the role of Making All Voices Count's (MAVC) Programme Director, and is now based in Nairobi. [Learn more about MAVC>>>](#)

GPSA is on Twitter! Follow @GPSA_org and #SocialAcc

Join the Knowledge Platform to interact, network, share and discuss social accountability:

<http://gpsaknowledge.org/>

Share your news with the Social Accountability community via our newsletter. Email GPSA@worldbank.org to be featured in an upcoming issue!

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