



Newsletter

NEWS

Nine Social Accountability Projects Have Been Pre-Selected!

We are pleased to announce the selection of 9 new proposals in Indonesia, Sierra Leone, Guinea, Georgia, Rwanda, Madagascar, Niger and Mauritania as finalists for the third round of GPSA grants. The grants, totaling close to US\$7.5 million, will provide strategic support to projects in which civil society and governments work together to solve critical governance challenges, and to strengthen transparency and accountability. Additionally, two proposals from Benin and Bangladesh were pre-selected to support knowledge activities in the water sector. [Read more>>>](#)

[To learn more about the projects, watch these short videos>>>](#)



Argentina Opts-in to the GPSA



The Government of Argentina recently opted-in to the GPSA, making civil society organizations (CSOs) in the country eligible to participate in future Calls for Proposals and potentially receive funding for social accountability projects. Several GPSA Global Partners have been instrumental in advocating for Argentina to opt-in. Guillermo Correa, Executive Director of [RACI](#) said that the window of opportunity opened last December with the national elections, as several NGO leaders were able to jump into public service. According to Renzo Lavin, Co-Director from [ACIJ](#), this government decision complements Argentina's GPSA Global Partner CSO contributions on the GPSA Knowledge Platform and

their participation in previous GPSA Global Partner Forums. [Read more>>>](#)

To date, 49 countries have opted-in. [Where We Operate>>>](#)

GPSA Global Partners Forum Preparations are in Full Swing !



On May 19-20, the annual Global Partners Forum will bring 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. This year, the Forum will feature a Networking Fair and a Government Gathering.

The Networking Fair will allow participating Global Partners to showcase their work at World Bank headquarters. As part of the two-day Fair, a networking activity will be organized to break silos and foster unexpected connections among partners from different sectors, regions, and approaches. There will also be a special Government Peer-to-Peer Dialogue, which will be a dedicated, closed space for officials to connect and share information. Under Chatham House rules, participants are invited to share experiences related to citizen engagement and social accountability from their respective settings including national and sub-national levels of government. [Read more>>>](#)

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

USAID Signs On as a Global Partner

USAID recently joined the GPSA's Global Partner network, as a result of their support of the [GPSA project](#) in the Dominican Republic.

The GPSA also recently participated in a USAID round table, which brought together staff, implementing partners and thought leaders working on local governance, service delivery and accountability. The meeting looked at some overarching trends and assumptions in the sector of local governance and accountability, illustrated by practical examples from programming as well as recent research.

[Learn more>>>](#)



Citizen Engagement and Social Accountability: Delivering on the 'New Normal' in Bank Operations

Is it possible to turn 'old wisdom' into the 'new normal'? Involving people who are affected by development decisions in having their say is not new. In the context of World Bank operations, it dates back to the early 1980s with beneficiary consultations as part of the design processes for projects affecting indigenous peoples. Today, those consultations have evolved into advanced forms of citizen engagement, including joint action for social accountability, that are being promoted across government, civil society and increasingly the private sector. The World Bank has played a leveraging and facilitating role in the move towards citizen-driven accountability and continues to do so. [Read more>>>](#)

From the Knowledge Platform | Political Economy Analysis – A Step Forward for Social Accountability and Development, or Three Steps Back? Part I | Allan Colm, a research associate at Rhodes University in South Africa, discusses to which extent Political Economy Analysis takes the governance and development practice forward. [Read more>>>](#)

UPCOMING EVENTS



GPSA Global Partners Forum | May 19-20, 2016 | The GPSA Global Partners Forum will bring together more than 250 partners from civil society organizations, academia, think tanks, the private sector and governments from all around the globe, to reflect on social accountability practices and to discuss cutting-edge issues shaping the field's present and future agenda. Building on the first and second GPSA Forums held in [2014](#) and [2015](#), the theme of this year's Forum is 'Social Accountability for Development Impact.' [Learn more>>>](#)

PAST EVENTS

Incidencia de la Rendición De Cuentas En La Gobernanza y la Gestión del Agua en América Latina [Spanish] | March 28, 2016 | This Webinar presented the results of an investigation led by the University of the Andes and UNDP in Colombia, Mexico, Chile and Brazil. [Learn more & Watch the Recording>>>](#)

Social Accountability in the Water Sector: Two Illustrative Examples | March 15, 2016 | This Brown Bag Lunch outlined 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. [Learn more & Watch the Recording>>>](#)

Social Accountability for Maternal Health: A Case Study from India | March 16, 2016 | This Webinar showcased outcomes and lessons learned of a project implemented by SAHAJ to improve maternal health in Gujarat, India. [Learn more & Watch the Recording>>>](#)

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