Registration is Open for GPSA Global Partners Forum 2017!

The 4th annual Global Partners Forum will convene more than 250 of the GPSA’s partners from civil society, academia, think tanks, donors, international agencies and governments working in the field of social accountability. This year the central theme is Citizen Action for Open, Accountable and Inclusive Institutions. At the Forum, we will seek to better understand the nature of emerging governance challenges as well as opportunities, and collaboratively develop responses and solutions drawing on emerging lessons. Registration is now open: http://bit.ly/registerGPforum

To learn more about the GPSA Global Partners Forum, visit the 2016 Forum website, watch the short Impression Video and check out the photos from last year.

Water in Social Accountability – Reflections from Tajikistan

By Jeff Thindwa, Program Manager, GPSA

The saying goes, ‘water is life’, and how so true! But water also drives economic and social development. Clean water supply is vital for health, hygiene and livelihood. Water is essential for agriculture and critical to energy production – and much, much more. However, more than a billion people currently live in water-scarce regions, and as many as 3.5 billion could experience water scarcity by 2025. Water scarcity is a recognized cause of conflict and migration and is among the top global risks. To be sure, conflict and migration likewise contribute to scarcity of water! Read More>>>

Gender and Water: Women’s Inclusion and Social Accountability in Water Supply and Sanitation Sector

By Shifo Sharifzoda, Consultant and Trainer, Consumers Union of Tajikistan

Over the last two years, the Consumers Union of Tajikistan has implemented the Tajikistan Water Improving Social Accountability
The Value of Networks: Evaluating Relationships Supporting Institutional Development for Water Supply in Tajikistan

By Duncan McNicholl, PhD candidate, Cambridge University

Understanding the complex stakeholder relationships that shape institutions and the development of social accountability in water service delivery can be challenging. The question is: how can the multiple relationships that influence institutions be understood to improve intervention strategies and ultimately improve water service delivery? Read More>>>

Nepal Opt-in to the GPSA

The Government of Nepal 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 in the country. Nepal is the second country from the South Asia region to opt-in to the program. Through a new partnership with the Fragility, Conflict and Violence Group at the World Bank, the GPSA will support resilience and mitigation efforts in Nepal. Read More>>>

The Knowledge Platform is hiring!

The GPSA Knowledge Platform - an online social space that provides members with the opportunity to interact, network, share, and discuss knowledge and learning in the field of social accountability - is hiring a Sustainability Consultant. Apply here by August 11, 2017.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Webinar | Evaluations, Learning and Keeping Calm: A Conversation About Resilience After an Evaluation | August 15, 2017 | The monitoring, evaluation and learning environment for social accountability seems to be changing. There is a lot of discussion about the value of experimentation, failure, and course-correction. Many funders and practitioners, however, continue to manage their projects with systems that do not support adaptation. This webinar will discuss Policy Forum’s experience navigating “both worlds.” Speakers will share information about a high-stakes evaluation that was disappointing to the implementer. They will then talk about how Policy Forum and its partners are rethinking its approach to learning, based on this experience. The webinar will be an opportunity to discuss what it takes to become a “learning organization”, identify challenges, and share some tricks of the trade. Join the Webinar>>>

PAST EVENTS

Empowering Citizens Through Participatory Budgeting and Innovations in Civic Technology | July 13, 2017 | Josh Lerner from Participatory Budgeting Project shared updates on the growth of participatory budgeting in North America and beyond, including new opportunities for civic technology, youth engagement, and scaling up local participation. There are clear overlaps with some of the Bank’s work on social accountability in public financial management around the world. The focus on civic technology, an increasingly important facilitator of citizen engagement, promises to generate discussion about its potential
Learn more & watch the recording

Webinar | ICT-Mediated Citizen Engagement: Voice or Chatter? | July 5, 2017 | IT for Change presented the results of eight empirical multi-country case studies of citizen engagement through ICTs they undertook. This research, funded by Making All Voices Count, explored in each case how new forms of participation were shaped by IT, how IT affected power relations between government and citizens, and how the interactions between different actors continuously shape governance. This research provides insights into how citizen engagement using IT should be evaluated and highlights policy issues and governance practices that matter for meaningful, IT-based, citizen engagement. Learn more & watch the recording

Webinar | How Can Demand Driven & Bottom-up Social Accountability Tools Improve Health Services? The Experience of Rural Mozambique | June 28, 2017 | In a country like Mozambique people face numerous barriers when accessing health services. This is especially evident in rural settings and affects particularly the most vulnerable (women, children, elderly, people with HIV and other chronic diseases). This webinar explored how Concern Universal (part of United Purpose) has managed to find the intersections in incentives and goals between government and rural communities while helping overcome some crucial gaps in health service delivery. It focuses on lessons learned through application of collaborative government/citizen’s approach. Learn more & watch the recording

How Do Citizens’ Voices Matter to Improve Service Delivery? The Experience of the Ñañomoiru Project of Social Audit to the Conditional Cash Transfer Program in Paraguay | June 20, 2017 | For the first time in Paraguay, the GPSA Project Ñañomoiru-Social Audit to the CCT Program Tekoporã brought evidence-based feedback from citizens for improving service delivery in education and health. Learn more & watch the recording

Webinar | Redevabilité Sociale : S’adapter dans un Contexte Changeant | June 13, 2017 | Conducted in French, this webinar discussed the experiences of CARE Morocco and the Near East Foundation through the LEAD project, which tries to mobilize key stakeholders in primary school to participate in positive change through the development of social accountability. Learn more & watch the recording

ECA Regional Forum | May 23-25, 2017 | The GPSA, together with Oxfam and the World Bank’s Water Partnership Program, organized the Europe and Central Asia (ECA) Regional Forum on Social Accountability in the Water and sanitation Sector in Dushanbe, Tajikistan. This was a highly engaging forum that aimed to broaden participants’ horizons on social accountability through a reflective process on its ‘building blocks’ and the factors that foster effective and impactful processes through collaborative, multi-stakeholder engagement. To learn more about the ECA Forum, read the Forum Report, have a look at the presentations, and check out the photos.