Transformative change in the water sector

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What is transformative change?

• Change at the system level
• Long term and sustainable
• Addresses power dynamics
• Adaptive and inclusive
• Shift in roles, relationships, and responsibilities
Figure: Cycles of change and impact through social accountability on water

Material change for citizens

1. Increased knowledge
2. Greater capability
3. New state-citizen engagement
4. Evidence generation via action research
5. Impactful advocacy
6. Enhanced dialogue and bargaining
7. Trust and legitimacy building
8. Outward learning & uptake

Improved service delivery

Better governance

System change within institutions

Impact - Water security for poverty reduction and sustainable growth

Citizen empowerment
Four pillars to deliver transformative change

- State buy-in
- Civil society legitimacy
- Monitoring and evaluation
- Donor support
Fishbowl debate: ground rules

1. Keep your answer to 2 minutes
2. Try to relate your answer to what has previously been said
3. Statements, examples, and contentions are welcome – but stick to the question!
4. Respect the speaker
Fishbowl debate: questions

1. What can states do to create an enabling environment for social accountability in the water sector?
Fishbowl debate: questions

2. How might civil society actors best represent citizens and influence state actors to deliver transformative change?
Fishbowl debate: questions

3. What can donors do to nurture and support transformative social accountability practice in the water sector?
Fishbowl debate: questions

4. How might monitoring and evaluation be improved to demonstrate impact, and support learning for social accountability in the water sector?
Priorities for transformative change
Thank you!

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