The Global Partnership for Social Accountability (GPSA) supports civil society and governments to work together to solve governance challenges. This is the first edition of the GPSA newsletter. We are glad to inform you about the exciting things to come in the GPSA!

JORDAN JOINS THE GPSA

Jordan, Uganda, Morocco, Grenada, Jamaica, Timor-Leste are just a few of the governments that have recently sent an ‘opt-in letter’ to GPSA. In total, 34 countries have now joined the GPSA. Civil society organizations based in opted-in countries are eligible to apply for GPSA grants in the Call for Proposals.

UNICEF JOINS GPSA COALITION OF GLOBAL PARTNERS

More than 80 civil society organizations, foundations, think tanks, multilateral agencies, networks have joined the GPSA coalition to focus together on solving governance challenges. Some of the newest Global Partners include HIVOS, Twaweza, UNICEF, IED Afrique, Young Americas Business Trust, Accountability Lab, PRIA, and ASDECA. All contribute to the GPSA through exchange of experiences, knowledge and networking on social accountability. See a complete list of Global Partners.

2ND CALL FOR PROPOSALS OPEN

GPSA launches its 2nd Call for Proposals in 33 countries across the world. For each of these countries, the Call is tailored to address country-specific governance problems. The GPSA’s innovative approach will help support social accountability mechanisms to address these challenges, while working with governments to respond to citizen demands. Applications will be accepted until January 6, 2014.
GPSA ANNOUNCES FIRST 13 GRANTS for $9.2M

The GPSA has announced its first grants for projects where civil society and governments collaborate to resolve critical governance problems in developing countries.

The GPSA grants for a total of more than US$9 million over the next five years will provide strategic support to 12 civil society organizations (CSOs) in 10 developing countries. An additional grant was allocated to Mexican NGO FUNDAR to develop the GPSA Knowledge Portal, to be launched in early 2014.

Read the announcement and the press release.

OPEN SOCIETY FOUNDATIONS JOINS GPSA WITH PARALLEL FUNDING FOR SOCIAL ACCOUNTABILITY

The Open Society Foundations (OSF) has announced an investment of $3 million in parallel funding to the GPSA. With this contribution, the OSF will be investing in GPSA activities at country level, thereby leveraging the reach of the GPSA. OSF also joins other donors and foundations including the Ford Foundation, on the Steering Committee as an observer. The OSF contribution coincides with the opening of the second round of GPSA funding for social accountability projects by civil society organizations.

Sanjay Pradhan  World Bank Vice President for Change, Knowledge and Learning

"If we are going to achieve the goals of reducing poverty and increasing shared prosperity, it's very important to empower citizens and civil society groups to be the voice of the poor"

source
GPSA 2nd CALL FOR PROPOSALS
November 18, 2013 until January 6, 2014
The Global Partnership for Social Accountability is pleased to announce its 2nd Call for Proposals. The Call for Proposals is open to civil society organizations (CSOs) and CSO networks based and operating in any of 33 eligible countries (those that have ‘opted-in’ to the GPSA to date). Grant amounts will range from US$500,000 to US$1,000,000. Requests for funding below this range will also be considered.

Grants are intended to provide strategic and sustained support to CSO projects with the following objectives:

- Solving critical governance and development problems through social accountability processes that generate citizen feedback, which is used by governments and public sector institutions to solve such problems.
- Strengthening civil society’s capacities for social accountability by investing in CSOs’ institutional strengthening and through mentoring of small, nascent CSOs by well-established, larger CSOs with a track record on social accountability.

Visit the GPSA webpage for more details.

COMPLAINTS OR FEEDBACK? THE CASE OF THE PROACTIVE CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT IN PUNJAB, PAKISTAN
BBL on social accountability in practice – Monday November 18, 12:30 – 2:00pm EST
http://worldbankva.adobeconnect.com/punjab-model/

Proactively seeking beneficiary feedback about quality of public services in health, revenue, and other services, the Punjab Citizen Feedback Model, funded and run by the provincial government, aims to institutionalize a mechanism to check petty corruption, monitor the quality of service delivery, and communicate state responsiveness. Over the last eighteen months, more than 3 million citizens have been contacted with SMS/automated calls/agent calls and around half a million have provided feedback. Sustained collection and use of this data has been facilitated by the careful alignment of incentives of senior political and civil service leadership. The Punjab model is cost-effective and leverages existing communication architecture of ordinary mobile phones. The BBL will discuss how it can be replicated and institutionalized in a variety of settings.
EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES

PAST EVENTS

CITIZENS AND GOVERNMENTS SOLVING GOVERNANCE CHALLENGES TOGETHER: UPDATE ON THE GLOBAL PARTNERSHIP FOR SOCIAL ACCOUNTABILITY
GPSA Panel discussion – October 9, 2013
Watch the Recording
This panel discussed progress made and important steps ahead for the Global Partnership for Social Accountability (GPSA). On October 2, the GPSA announced the first grants for 13 civil society organizations in 11 developing countries. The discussion focused on key issues and opportunities for civil society in the implementation of GPSA. This session was part of the Civil Society Policy Forum at the World Bank Group Annual Meetings 2013.
More information...

RETHINKING SOCIAL ACCOUNTABILITY IN AFRICA: LESSONS FROM THE MWANANCHI PROGRAMME
GPSA BBL with Overseas Development Institute – September 12
Watch the recording
Despite evident economic progress in Africa, inequality is slowing the rate at which growth delivers better services to poor people. The Mwananchi Programme spent five years implementing “social accountability” projects in six African countries to enable ordinary citizens to hold their governments to account: this event discussed the lessons learned and what they mean for designing and carrying out projects which change the rules of the game in favor of poor people.

DEALING WITH COMPLEXITY: THE ADDED VALUE OF KNOWLEDGE SHARING, PARTNERSHIP, AND ACCOUNTABILITY
GPSA BBL with Helvetas Swiss Intercooperation – November 12, 12:30 – 2:00 pm
Watch the recording
Like most NGOs, HELVETAS Swiss Intercooperation works in increasingly complex contexts, characterized by the interaction of multiple actors and agendas. The BBL discussed how promoting knowledge sharing, partnerships and accountability in our daily work can be crucial for dealing with this complexity and achieving lasting development results.

OPEN CONTRACTING: FROM PRINCIPLES TO PRACTICE
CASE STUDIES FROM COLOMBIA AND LIBERIA
OPEN GOVERNMENT PARTNERSHIP Webinar – October 17
Watch the recording
Colombia and Liberia are two OGP member countries that have made significant progress in opening public contracts. Their experiences are suggesting the real potential of Open Contracting to contribute to sustainable public resource management and innovative performance in delivery of goods and services, and hence to further demonstrate the value of open and accountable government.
VIDEO
Roby Senderowitsch, GPSA Program Manager, on how this innovative new World Bank program supports civil society to work together with governments to solve governance challenges.

Watch the interview...

KNOWLEDGE
GPSA Grantees Workshop Report
The GPSA organized an intensive capacity building workshop with organizations that were pre-selected for GPSA grants in June 2013. Participants together with governance experts and practitioners from civil society discussed good practices and key challenges in implementing social accountability projects and refined their proposals. Workshop Report

World Vision
Citizen Voice and Action (CVA) is a three step process to influence policy makers by using education, collaborative work with the government and providers and adapted SA accountability tools such as community score cards and social audits.

CVA Field Guide: Practical Manual on how to implement CVA (available in English, French and Spanish)
CVA Guidance Notes: Comprehensive Guidance on how to implement CVA approach (available in English, French, Spanish, Arabic, Urdu, Portuguese and Bahasa)
CVA Case Study: Using the CVA approach in Uganda to improve Education, Health and Water (English only)
For downloads in other languages https://www.smore.com/w5xy-citizen-voice-and-action

Oxfam Tajikistan
In July 2013, Oxfam organized a Dushanbe-based, participatory event (workshop) around its project funded by GPSA. The idea of the workshop was to inform main and future local partners of the funded project and of the initial GPSA workshop’s main conclusions; to gather key stakeholders around the table and start generating the essential linkages that the project will need; and fine-tune our proposal for finalizing the project’s documentary basis. Workshop report

Cordaid
Afghanistan: Monitoring Women’s Security in Transition
Briefing Note Extractives in South Sudan
Briefing Note Extractives in Colombia

World Bank – Social Development
Social Accountability E-Guide
Demand for Good Governance (DFGG) Learning Note Series
World Bank Social Development DFGG How-to Notes:
Citizen Report Cards-Monitoring Citizen Perspectives to Improve Service Delivery
Rapid Feedback: The Role of Community Scorecards in Improving Service Delivery
How, When, and Why to Use Demand-Side Governance Approaches
Citizen Service Centers: Enhancing Access, Improving Service Delivery, and Reducing Corruption
Citizen Charters: Enhancing Service Delivery through Accountability
Feedback Matters: Designing Effective Grievance Redress Mechanisms for Bank-financed Projects (Part 2: Practice)

Action Aid
Using Evidence to Establish Accountability: A Sourcebook on democratic accountability for development practitioners and learning facilitators
Accountability: Quality and Equity in Public Service Provision—HRBA Governance Resources
Democracy: Justice and Accountability at the Local Level-HRBA Governance Resources
Voice: Representation and People’s Democracy—HRBA Governance Resources
Power: Elite Capture and Hidden Influence-HRBA Governance Resources
Budgets: Revenues and Financing Public Service Provision—HRBA Governance Resources

TALEARN Think Piece
Strategic Dilemmas in Changing Contexts: G-Watch’s Experience in the Philippine Education Sector by Florencia Guerzovich & Steven Rosenzweig, Oct. 2013

CAPACITY BUILDING

Transnational NGO Leadership Institute, a leadership preparedness program targeting international NGO leaders

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