

THE POTENTIAL OF SOCIAL ACCOUNTABILITY FOR IMPROVING ACCESS TO QUALITY FP/RH SERVICES

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What is social accountability?

Efforts of *citizens* and *civil society* to scrutinize and hold *duty bearers* (politicians, government officials and service providers) to account for *providing promised services*, actions that most often take place at the sub-national or community level.

Types of SAcc Interventions

Participatory Budgeting

Public Expenditure Tracking

Community Report Cards

Citizen Report Cards

Social Audits

Citizen Charters

Health Committees

Information Sharing & Campaigns

Complaint Mechanisms

राष्ट्रीय ग्रामीण आरोग्य अभियान PMC - पासकी
आपल्या गावातील आरोग्य सेवांचे प्रगतीपत्रक
चला आपण एकत्र येऊ, आपल्या आरोग्य सेवांवर देखरेख ठेवू!

गावाचे नाव: केळद, झडे, विहीर, बिनी, सप्रोळी दिनांक: ११/०८-०८


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आपल्या गावात आरोग्य, पोषण, पाणी पुरवठा स्वच्छता समितीची मदत घेऊ.
आपण सगळे मिळून गावाच्या आरोग्याची परिस्थिती सुधारू!

Courtesy of Population Foundation of India

Why Focus on Accountability?

- Accountability is an essential element to ensuring aid effectiveness
- Accountability has become increasingly important in the FP/RH field
- SAcc holds great promise for improving FP/RH services, but significant evidence gaps remain



**Social Accountability:
What are the Lessons for
Improving
FP/RH Programs?**

Review of SAcc in FP/RH programs

- Builds on a history of community involvement
- Limited literature specific to FP/RH (16 case studies)
- Evidence on effectiveness and impact has yet to be adequately demonstrated

Promising evidence on effectiveness and impact of FP/RH SAcc intervention—Tanzania

- By tracking policy implementation, staffing patterns at 24 intervention facilities increased by 33% after 4 months*



*Health Policy Initiative-Task Order I (HPI). 2010. "Promoting Accountability for Safe Motherhood: The White Ribbon Alliance's Social Watch Approach," Health Policy Initiative Task Order 1.

Experts Consensus Points

- SAcc interventions are more than just applying tools, they are **complex political processes**
- Social accountability models must be adapted to reflect **FP/RH issues**
- More **realistic expectations** are needed on the outcomes SAcc interventions can achieve within **limited timeframes**
- There is a need to identify and measure **minimum conditions** required for successful SAcc interventions

What is Unique about SAcc for FP/RH?

- Much Potential
 - Applies to specific FP/RH issues
 - Operationalize rights based approaches
- Reservations
 - Balancing private and public
 - Role of incentives for SAcc



Moving Forward: Issues for the FP/RH Community

- Specific knowledge gaps remain in understanding the applicability of SAcc to FP/RH
- A diversity of methodologies are necessary to best capture the varied outcomes of SAcc approaches
- There is a need for better documentation of existing programs

Thank You

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