



# Greasing the Wheels of the Accountability System

## How CSOs Close the Gap between Transparency & Accountability

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# What are we talking about?

- Transparency not delivering on its accountability promises
- Not enough analysis of the multiple roles of CSOs in making this happen
- Evidence from 21 case studies:  
<http://bit.ly/1jFf0tT>
- Paper available here: <http://bit.ly/1mCuXF0>



# How do CSOs do this?

- *Accessing, interpreting & distributing* information to multiple stakeholders
- Demanding accountability *directly & through others*

# Accessing information

- Disaggregated information for accountability
- What happens when government won't share:  
The ACIJ case from Argentina:  
<http://bit.ly/1f6ugnZ>



# Making information user friendly

- Those dreaded PDFs
- Combining the right types of information. The Mud Schools case: <http://bit.ly/1f9qfP3>
- Fixing mistakes

# Finding out who in government did what

- Analysis shows where blockages are.
- And who is responsible. The Samarthan case study: <http://bit.ly/1tFKHLB>



# Distributing information

- Oversight actors sometimes just don't know.
- The Fundar Seguro Popular case: <http://bit.ly/1nliaki>



# Demanding accountability directly

- Hitting the streets
- Or the media. The Haki Elimu case:  
<http://bit.ly/1If8LH>



# Helping formal oversight actors do their jobs

- Building the capacity of auditors and legislatures
- Applying pressure. The INESC case:  
<http://bit.ly/1IfHFt>



# Bringing other oversight actors into the game

- The PSAM case : <http://bit.ly/1mCAADd>
- Executive insiders
- Political parties
- Donors

# What next?

- CSOs are not the only game in town: part of an accountability ecosystem
- And yes, context matters
- But research on how to deepen these relationships
  - CSOs & formal oversight actors (legs, auditors, judiciary)
  - CSOs & other accountability actors (media, pol parties etc)
  - CSOs and executive insiders (national & subnational)

