



Upcoming Work on the Enabling Environment for Civic Engagement Initiative

Jeff Thindwa

Participation and Civic Engagement Group
Social Development Department, World Bank

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**Bank-Netherlands Partnership
Program (BNPP) - Global Project
Enabling Institutional Capacities and
Authorizing Environments for Civic
Engagement**

**The Trust Fund for Social and
Environmentally Sustainable Development
(TFESSD) - Joint Project with CIVICUS
Participatory Country Assessments for Civic
Engagement in Ghana and Sierra Leone**



Rationale (both projects)

- Demand for from governments and CSOs for capacity building for civic engagement, particularly social accountability to improve services.
- Engagement of stakeholder groups in participatory analytical work increases institutional capacities and improves country conditions for civic engagement.
- Opportunity to build on completed assessments and to further innovate (e.g. social accountability focus, and joint analytical work with CIVICUS)
- Social Development Strategy: Focus on Inclusion, Cohesion and Accountability



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Overarching objective:

To improve institutional capacities in the Bank's client countries for promoting enabling conditions for civil society to participate in and influence development processes.

Specific objectives:

- To facilitate dissemination and implementation of ARVIN assessments conducted in 2 pilots
- To expand the application of the framework
- To develop capacity building/knowledge tools for Bank staff, clients and others to assess and strengthen enabling conditions for civic engagement.



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- Follow up to completed country assessments (Albania).
 - Engage stakeholders on, and disseminate the findings of completed assessments
 - Provide guidance to the country teams and pursue specific strategies for institutional reforms
- New participatory analytical work:
 - **Mozambique:** support implementation of the PRSP, post-conflict social transformation, and structured national dialogue on public accountability in context of PRSCs
 - **Mongolia:** promote accountability of public institutions in the context of the implementation of PRSCs and support key components of CAS implementation



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- **Cameroon:** feed into the operationalization of a CAS pillar aimed at strengthening service delivery and improving the transparency of public resources
- **Ecuador:** support participation of civil society in budget transparency and accountability in context of various loans and other Bank-supported projects
- Production and application of capacity building and knowledge dissemination tools
 - Production of toolkit
 - Capacity building workshops
 - Learning Notes
 - Expand Civic Engagement Topic Page



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Expected Outcomes

- Create a firm basis for systematic dialogue between government and civil society about social and economic development priorities
- Help create a more permissive environment for civil society to exact accountability from governments, through institutional reforms, e.g. access to information and greater participation in public decision-making.
- Influence the preparation and implementation of a wide range of Bank-supported operations, including PRSCs.



TFESSD: Joint Project with CIVICUS ... Common Objective

Objective: To strengthen the analytical and institutional capacity of civil society organizations to engage with government to achieve *better governance* and *better delivery of services*.

- Apply Civil Society Index (CSI) led by CIVICUS to identify constraints and opportunities for CSOs as development actors
- Apply ARVIN to assess enabling environment for civic engagement, and focus on enabling conditions for social accountability mechanisms in Ghana and Sierra Leone



TFESSD: Joint Project w/ CIVICUS ...

Integration of methodologies

<p>CSI Assessment (component 1)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">•Identifying National Coordinating committees•Stakeholder consultation•Customization of CSI tool•Regional stakeholder consultations, data gathering•National Reflection and Agenda setting workshop•Establishing task forces and designing strategies to implement action agenda
<p>ARVIN Assessment (component 2)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">•Institutional mapping of stakeholders•Scoping mission•Literature reviews and Background paper•Preparation of ARVIN descriptors and questions•In-country data collection•Analysis of findings , peer review and clearance of the country assessment report•Dissemination of findings and recommendations, and public advocacy for emerging reform proposals•Learning activities



TFESSD: Joint Project w/ CIVICUS ... Expected Outcomes

- Enhance the knowledge base of stakeholders while enhancing the skills and leverage of CSOs in public decision-making and service delivery
- Create opportunities and spaces for interaction among stakeholders on development and governance issues
- Serve as a partnership model in the area of joint analytical work and participatory policy reform formulation