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ANSIA-EAP is a non-profit foundation registered in the Philippines. It is housed in the Ateneo School of Government under the Ateneo de Manila University. It was set up in 2006 as a project of the Ateneo School of Government, a joint of the Ateneo de Manila University, with support from the World Bank’s Development Grant Facility (2008-2011).
WE ARE THE AFFILIATED NETWORK FOR SOCIAL ACCOUNTABILITY IN EAST ASIA AND THE PACIFIC (ANSA-EAP)

Our vision is to help improve governance by mainstreaming the Social Accountability (SAc) approach. A regional network established in 2008, ANSA-EAP develops and promotes the East Asia-Pacific way of doing SAc.

SOCIAL ACCOUNTABILITY is constructive engagement between citizens and government in monitoring the use of public resources. Social accountability action brings us closer to the vision of a sustainable society—providing for the people’s basic needs through improved public service delivery, building a caring community that enhances people’s welfare, and promoting people’s rights.

The process by which citizens and government interact is called constructive engagement; the centerpiece of this engagement is CITIZEN MONITORING of the processes and decisions throughout the Public Finance Management cycle.

Constructive engagement has two components: sustained dialogue and collaborative problem-solving.

ANSA-EAP promotes citizen monitoring of government performance and the upholding of the rights and welfare of communities by monitoring the quality of public service delivery and the transparency of public transactions. In the East Asia-Pacific region, many countries have already used and benefited from SAc tools and actions, such as: participatory public policy making, participatory monitoring, budget monitoring, expenditure tracking, procurement monitoring, and preparing citizen report cards and community score cards on the quality of public service delivery.

ANSA-EAP serves as the nexus between government and its citizens, and among stakeholder groups rallying around the social accountability approach to good governance.

ANSA-EAP MAIN PROGRAMS

Networking, ANSA-EAP brings citizens into the work of good governance alongside NGOs, civic organizations, and other citizen groups.

Our objective is to mainstream SAc, making it the prevailing approach in holding government projects and institutions to account. This means facilitating situations where constructive engagement with citizens in monitoring use of public resources are central in the agenda, the performance measures, the budget, human resource policies, and communication strategies of government entities.

We help organize and connect partners through in-country and thematic convener groups that are present across priority countries in the region. We link individuals and groups with a common interest in SAc action. More than just away of building connections, our networking platform supports partner and stakeholder empowerment in instilling substantive dialogue, influencing the continuing exchange of knowledge and experiences, and direct collaboration. It builds positive connections with government for monitoring and problem-solving activities. It is a tool for coordinating SAc advocates.

Action Research and Knowledge Management, ANSA-EAP supports action research that identifies and studies both successful and challenging SAc approaches and initiatives in East Asia-Pacific. Our research is directed at exploring the four pillars of SAc, and identifying ways of advancing the environment for social accountability in East Asia-Pacific. We work to systematically organize, capture, and share SAc knowledge carried by network partners and other stakeholders.

Capacity Building, ANSA-EAP provides learning-in-action opportunities for capacity building to enhance competencies in SAc. This includes providing support to stimulating and deepening the awareness and skills of stakeholders, network members, and other partners on effective SAc tools and methods. Module development, testing, and rollouts are key activities in ANSA-EAP’s capacity building efforts. These approaches, together with the networking platform, provide access to case studies, stories, tools, research materials, and methodologies on SAc based on community, country, regional, and international experiences.

ANSA-EAP’s prevailing approach to building the capacity of its partners is through action-oriented learning programs, which are divided into three interlocking phases: face-to-face workshops, mentoring and coaching, and piloting social accountability projects. This model has been carried out in Cambodia, Mongolia, and the Philippines.

Information and Communication, ANSA-EAP stimulates and coordinates ideas and knowledge-exchanges between and across countries through appropriate communication tools and channels, including the Internet and face-to-face activities. ANSA-EAP’s target audience consists of networks and groups that work with local communities. Community-building is at the heart of information exchange among SAc practitioners and advocates; this includes establishing appropriate and effective communication links, mechanisms, and facilities.

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1) For 2008-2011, ANSA-EAP’s priority countries are: Cambodia, Indonesia, Mongolia, and the Philippines.