New Frontiers in Open Budgets

Bolstering Participation for Accountable Outcomes
Engaging with Supreme Audit Institutions

- **Promoting civil society spaces within the SAI**
  - Participatory planning
    - Open to civil society (broad sense) participation
    - Feedback from SAI to proposals
  - Participatory dissemination
    - SAI includes CSOs in the publicity of the audits
  - Working with a coalition
    - Including CSOs that were not familiar with the work of the SAI, promoting participation
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- **Promoting civil society participation within the audited institution**
  - Right to health (Chagas case)
    - Working with a coalition of diverse actors (key to involve affected people and experts on the different areas of this issue)
    - Promoting SAI recommendations within Ministry of Health, Congress’ Health Commissions, Budget allocation
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- **OGP - 4th open government plan (2019-2022)**
  - Agreement between SAI and CSOs
  - Diagnosis: there is a limitation for the SAI, civil society (in broad sense) and decision makers to follow up on the audit recommendations
  - Information
  - Publicity
  - Universe of audits
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- **OGP - 4th open government plan (2019-2022)**
  - Plan: creation and implementation of a Follow-up mechanism
  - Audit training for CSOs: intention to promote the mechanism not to limit participation
  - Creation of a methodology to evaluate the audit implementation (currently in this stage)
  - Implementation of an interactive website to guarantee easy access and publicity
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- **Budget - Promoting audit recommendations**
  - Transparency and easy access
    - Request the Executive to give publicity to the budget law draft
    - Participation on the Open Budget Survey
    - Budget monitor
  - Budget analysis:
    - Involving experts on the issue, training other allies, policy papers for decision makers and CSOs
  - Advocacy: Congress and the Executive Power
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- **Key question:** how SAIs can bolster participation?

**Active role**
- Since, CSOs are active on using the SAI’s resources, there is a passive role from the institution → it is necessary to shift the responsibility to promote these spaces.
- Using all of the legally granted opportunities for CSOs participation: still resistance to grant participation during the audit process (Open Budget Survey).
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- **Key question: how SAIs can bolster participation?**

  **Active role**
  - Give audits a rights based approach (SDGs and more)
    → connect audit recommendations with concrete impacts
  - When possible, collaborate with CSOs in their initiatives outside the SAI
Thank you!

More info at: www.acij.org.ar