

ANSA-Africa

Strengthening accountability systems and institutions

As you plan your way forward in social accountability for 2008, please make time to support one of the many initiatives across Africa.

One such initiative is the **Participation & Accountability conference** scheduled for March 10-14 in Durban, South Africa. Organised by the Municipal Development Partnership for Eastern and Southern Africa (MDP-ESA) with financial support from partner organisations including ANSA-Africa and the World Bank, this conference is designed to give government officials and social accountability practitioners hands-on, peer-to-peer training in how to involve communities in municipality budgeting and planning. For more information, please visit www.asaaf.org.zw/pbw-harare6-8march.html or www.ansa-africa.net.

The second annual **ANSA-Africa Stakeholder conference** is due to take place in Nairobi, Kenya in April 2008. The primary objectives are:

- To report to stakeholders on developments and the activities of ANSA-Africa, including capacity building initiatives and technical support in various countries;
- To get stakeholder participation in the various structures and activities of ANSA-Africa;
- To interact with the stakeholders on their experiences and needs in social accountability issues;
- To debate social accountability issues, methodologies and experiences and to decide on areas for ANSA-Africa's involvement; and
- To interact with development partners and donors across the continent.

The programme will consist of a balanced mix of plenary sessions, seminars, specialised workshops, site visits, exhibitions and a gala evening event. Prominent speakers from across the continent and with international experience will present high-level papers, while on-the-ground experience will also form an important component of the discussions, with comparisons to international experiences.

In the month just past ...

- **Africa's Social Accountability Profile (ASAP)** has completed its field investigations of Egypt, Kenya, Malawi, Mozambique, Senegal, Tanzania and Togo.
- The new home page feature article, written by Oumoul Khayri Ba Tall, the outgoing president of the African Evaluation Association, examines the role of civil society in monitoring development processes in Africa.
- Recent additions to www.ansa-africa.net:
 - [Citizens' Report Card on Urban Water, Sanitation and Solid Waste Services in Kenya](#)
 - [Transparency and Accountability in Africa's Extractive Industries: the Role of the Legislature](#)
 - [Engaging the public in National budgeting: A non-governmental perspective](#)
 - [Development Aid at a Glance 2007: Statistics by Region \(Africa\)](#)

As we enter the festive season, we wish you all a safe and restful break from the work routine. Please remember the ANSA-Africa web portal is always available and provides a wealth of information to inspire and equip you for your next efforts in social accountability. And please feel free to mail us any time with your input or questions: ansa@hsrc.ac.za.

We look forward to hearing from you.

Yours for the growth of social accountability,

The ANSA-Africa Team

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