

ANSA-Africa

Strengthening accountability systems and institutions

The strength of Africa's social accountability network is at grassroots level

Last month's conference on Growing the Network did just that - it strengthened the network by bringing together an amazing variety of people representing community organisations, NGOs, government agencies, academic institutions, unions and professional organisations, researchers, journalists and a host of other organisations, all with one goal in mind: to make a difference across Africa by empowering citizens and local government through social accountability.

To demonstrate how the network grew over those two days, we would like to share an email from Claire Quenum, ANSA-Africa's technical advisory group member based in Togo. She writes:

I would like to inform you that the francophone participants had a talk during the evening cocktail on Tuesday, May 20. They requested me to be their focal point regarding the follow-up of the conference. We therefore made the decision to:

- **Have a Yahoo group address in order to communicate among ourselves.**
- **Keep contact with ANSA-Africa in order to use the information of the conference.**
- **Support one another for Social Accountability actions in the different countries through information and experience sharing.**
- **Network in order to strengthen the francophone participation in ANSA-Africa.**



The francophone network

As the group wanted information about my participation in the launching workshop of ANSA-Africa in December 2006, I circulated the report I wrote to inform stakeholders in Togo at that time... I would like you to extend our congratulations to the other members of ANSA-Africa who contributed for the success of the conference.

We are encouraged to see these initiatives in the Francophone community and we hope others of you will let us know of ways you would like to grow the ANSA-Africa network among your special interest or language groups.

We in the ANSA-Africa Secretariat would like you all to know that we were encouraged as well by the conference. Some of the delegates came a very long way, against incredible obstacles, to share their enthusiasm for social accountability in their home communities. Everybody who attended contributed to the conference and its ongoing discussions in very meaningful ways.

In the month just past...

- **Africa's Social Accountability Profile (ASAP)** released the monogram of its initial reports on Egypt, Kenya, Malawi, Mozambique, Senegal, Tanzania and Togo at the conference. It is now available www.ansa-africa.net.
- **New additions to the website include** some of the papers presented at the conference, including the presentation on Social Accountability in Post-Conflict and Fragile States, presented by Dr Sylvain Boko of Wake Forest University in North Carolina, USA. Other new additions include:
 - [Uganda: Policy note on social accountability](#)
 - [Accountability and service delivery in Southern Africa: The case for rights-based social accountability monitoring](#)
 - [Community participation for equity and quality in basic education in Guinea](#)
 - [The politics of the budget process in Latin America: policy lessons for other countries](#)

Please don't wait until the next stakeholders' conference to let us know what you are doing in social accountability. Send us your news and photos to add to the Full Circle newsletter and website each month. Tell us what goals you are setting, what milestones you achieve and what problems you are facing. Let's all contribute to the conversation that has sprung up at the conference ... and keep it going to the next exciting meeting.

We look forward to hearing from you.

Yours for the growth of social accountability,

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