**Regional consultation on the practical implementation of the right to development: Identifying and Promoting good practices**

**Addis-Ababa 27-29 March 2018**

**Topic: Defining Monitoring frameworks: the role of stakeholders**

Introduction

Definition of terms

**Monitoring** can be defined as the ongoing tools to enhance the quality of project planning and management. Monitoring helps project managers to understand whether the projects are progressing in schedule and to ensure that project inputs, activities, outputs and external factors are proceeding as planned.

**Stakeholder:** An individual, group, or organization who may affect, be affected by, or perceive itself to be affected by a decision, activity, or outcome of a project. (PMBOK 2013, p.563).

It is good practice to include people who will be collecting the data when you develop your framework e.g. involve beneficiaries, volunteers, trustees, partner organizations or funders.

**Case study:**

***Social Public Expenditure and Financial Accountability (SPEFA: Role of stakeholders in monitoring district development pagrammes in Nsawam Adoagyiri Municipality.***

**Brief background**

The Social Public Expenditure and Financial Accountability Project (SPEFA) is a local capacity support project initiated in 2013 by the government of Ghana in collaboration with the World Bank. The project was jointly implemented by YAG and Ampa Resource Organization in the Nsawam-Adoagyiri Municipality .

**Objective**

The objective of the project was to improve **the capacity of stakeholders**, citizens and other social groups **to monitor and demand accountability** from public service officials in the Nsawam Adoagyiri municipality, Eastern Region, Ghana.

**Tools**

Social accountability tools were used.

1. **SPEFA FORUM:** A learning platform to train and empower stakeholders and citizens on local governance structures, citizens’ rights, social accountability tools, procurement procedures, planning and government policies.
2. **Town Hall Meetings:** Engagement platform between citizens and public servants-at this meeting, the district development programmes are presented including ongoing projects and annual plans and budget.

**Key lessons**

* Citizens and stakeholders exercised their rights to development by contributing to the planning and monitoring of programs in the district. When citizens participate from the onset, they can **monitor the project.**
* Neglected development projects were revived and completed…
* Adherence to provisions relating to access for people with **disabilities** are being implemented when **buildings** are first constructed or altered.
* Redesigning and re-construction of abattoir for the district after stakeholders raised concerns about the unfriendly nature of the building
* The district assembly complied with the local government act provision to organize town hall meetings with its stakeholders and citizens
* Effective utilization of Internally Generated Funds (IGF) towards development efforts in the district egg fixing of market, electricity to markets and construction of bus terminal etc.
* The use of local language in SPEFA forum and Town Hall meetings proved to be effective in engaging stakeholders.

**Challenges**

* Dwindling spirit of volunteerism-low participation of stakeholders when transport allowance are not paid.
* Low attendance and participation of women-

**Recommendations**

* Development planning should be citizens-led. The right of stakeholders to participate and contributed to development must be respected and granted.
* Citizens empowerment is critical to understand development policies and contribute to its process
* Role of civil society must be strengthened to engage citizens and empower citizens
* District assemblies and public services must adhere to standard procedures and apply human-right approach in development planning.
* Capacity building for vulnerable groups and women groups is key.