



ACCELERATING THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE 2030 AGENDA AND AU AGENDA 2063 IN AFRICA: **BUILDING RESILIENT INSTITUTIONS FOR THE SDGs IN THE TIME OF COVID-19**

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INTRODUCTION

- Brief explanation of why accountability is important and why we need new and different approaches with young people;
- The global political and economic context has evolved dramatically. Some important progress has been made in many places around the continent in terms of civic participation, community engagement and innovation in governance. But the trend overall has been largely negative. As society has become more networked, we have found it more difficult to connect with each other to push for meaningful reforms.
- There is also a disconnect between the ideas, networks and creativity of young people that could allow systems change to take place.

NEW APPROACHES

- Voice to Represent (“Voice2Rep”) is a first-of-its-kind music competition searching for underground and undiscovered music artists who support greater representation, participation and accountability;
- The finalists are trained on lyrics, style, and performance as well as advocacy for accountability, good governance and political engagement.
- Voice2Rep’s first album, featuring all the musicians involved in the campaign is out now. *In These Present Times* is available on all major streaming platforms Spotify, iTunes, Deezer and Amazon Music.

VOICE2REP

www.accountabilitylab.org/our-work/voice2rep/



ACCOUNTABILITY MUSIC AWARDS

- This topic on transparency and accountability are things that really matter. When money for health clinics goes missing, or medicine for patients is stolen, people die. When education funds are misappropriated or mismanaged, children cannot learn. This perpetuates suffering, poverty and inequality. That's why it's important to support and celebrate the singers, musicians, DJs, and producers who use their voices and music to raise awareness about these kinds of issues.
- The AMAs, implemented by AL, ONE and the African Union recognise African musicians and artists whose music supports the fight against corruption in Africa.



ACCOUNTABILITY MUSIC AWARDS

www.accountabilitymusicawards.org/



ACCOUNTABILITY FILM SCHOOLS

- Our film schools aim to develop a generation of socially-conscious filmmakers who have the skills and knowledge to tackle accountability issues through visual storytelling. Through the production and distribution of short films in local languages, we engage communities in conversations and actions on inclusion and governance issues.

ACCOUNTABILITY FILM SCHOOLS



HOW CAN WE STRENGTHEN MECHANISMS AND PLATFORMS TO BRING ALL STAKEHOLDERS TOGETHER TO CONTRIBUTE TO THE 2030 AGENDA AND AGENDA 2063?

- **Ensure inclusivity-** make sure excluded populations are included at every level. This means walking the talk on these issues and finding new ways to reach those that might be left out. We've worked to counter misinformation at the last mile, distributing bulletins via social media, radio, and Whatsapp in multiple languages that give communities verified information about the pandemic and vaccine rollouts - <https://accountabilitylab.org/bulletins/>
- **Get creative to make these platforms relevant-** mechanisms and platforms need to be taken to where people are, not where we want them to be- that is why tools like music, film and the arts are so key.

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- **Build trust-** through feedback- Civic Action Teams (CivActs) are a pioneering citizen feedback, dialogue and community voice platform to ensure accountability in the development process. CivActs have now collected critical information from hundreds of communities across the continent, solving daily problems for citizens and closing the loop on development challenges.
- We've had more than 200,000 community conversations through surveys and more than 150 multi-stakeholder town hall meetings that have helped co-create solutions for hundreds of problems. Through varied and creative dissemination methods such as infographics, community radio stations and murals, we've reached millions of community members on topics ranging from fiscal transparency to migration.

HOW ARE ALL SECTORS AND LEVELS OF GOVERNMENT, INCLUDING PARLIAMENT AND HUMAN RIGHTS INSTITUTIONS, ENGAGED IN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE 2030 AGENDA AND AGENDA 2063?

- It has to be a multi-sectoral approach, through which solutions are co-created and implementation is collectively owned. For example, the goal of universal health coverage is dependent on collaboration - the delivery of health services depends on good infrastructure (roads, energy, information and communications technology, water and sanitation, and training of the health workforce) and key public health policies (tobacco/alcohol control, road traffic injury prevention, and environmental health).
- In Nigeria, government agencies such as the Bureau of Public Procurement at the state level, the anticorruption agency, CSOs, UNDP, ALAB, OCP collaborate on how procurement affects service delivery across all sectors in 3 implementation local States: Edo, Ekiti, and Akwa Ibom states

HOW CAN PARTNERSHIPS WITH NON-STATE ACTORS AND THE PRIVATE SECTOR CONTRIBUTE TO THE 2030 AGENDA AND AGENDA 2063?

- Non-state actors and the private sector play a central role in achieving these goals in 3 ways:
- i) **The values they hold**- meaning they have to meaningfully commit to these goals, not just talk about it. Companies have to truly aim for stakeholder rather than shareholder value, for example- hold each other accountable for doing so.
- ii) **The ways they collaborate**- we need to find new partnerships to bring organizations inside and outside government together to support each other to reach shared goals. Our work with Integrity Icon as a good example of a CSO finding a creative way to support those within government to grow their influence, even in difficult circumstances.

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- iii) The stories they tell- the media is critical to telling the right kinds of stories and building the right narratives around these goals as a non-state actor. When space for journalists shrinks, it impedes the ability of citizens to understand how power is being used and to hold those in government and elsewhere to account. We believe in particular in supporting independent, solutions-focused journalism and storytelling (eg our new media incubator in South Africa) that can ensure the right voices are heard and positive examples can be found of efforts to achieve these goals.

THANKS SO MUCH FOR YOUR ATTENTION

Q&A

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