What is AcT?
“Civil society organisations play a vital role in enabling citizens to be more active agents in their own development and ensuring that policies benefit ordinary people, including the poorest”
Darren Welch, Head of DFID Tanzania

The Accountability in Tanzania (AcT) Programme is an initiative that works with civil society to strengthen the capacity of Tanzanian citizens to demand the delivery of quality public services and the accountable management of public resources.

Grant Applications Still Open

AcT is seeking to fund more CSOs whose objectives are aligned with those of the programme:
• Enabling ordinary people to gain access to, generate and use information that will widen their choices and make governance more transparent
• Supporting citizens’ demand for a role in making the decisions that affect their lives
• Monitoring how government delivers on its commitments
• Learning about what works and does not work in strengthening transparency and accountability

For details of the grant application process, please visit our website (www.accountability.or.tz) or contact us at act@accountability.or.tz.
THE AcT APPROACH

AcT is providing institutional funding to CSOs that have the capacity and potential to innovate, scale-up and implement activities which increase the accountability of government around key national development priorities.

But there is more to AcT than simply providing funding. AcT also supports CSOs with strategic planning, monitoring and reporting. The aim is to improve the effectiveness of CSOs through a sharper focus on outcomes that achieve change and better analysis of and learning from their experience.

To achieve its goal, AcT will:

- Support a shift in focus from top-down to bottom-up activities
- Facilitate linkages between different initiatives, institutions and reforms
- Adopt a partnership approach: working with and through our partners and providing active support
- Make learning a priority at all levels of the programme

CSO PARTNERS

AcT is currently funding seven partner CSOs working to improve accountability in water, health, education, rural livelihoods and poverty alleviation:

**DARAJA** is an innovative programme based in Njombe that seeks to involve citizens in the monitoring of water delivery.

By using SMS messages, Daraja will allow citizens to bring water problems to the attention of district water engineers and monitor what they are doing about them.

Daraja will receive up to GBP 459,360 of AcT funding ending April 2012.

**UWEZO** is an East Africa wide programme to assess the quality of education services. A creative aspect of their approach is the involvement of parents in the assessment process. This helps to raise public understanding and demand for good quality education.

Uwezo will receive up to GBP 1,001,960 of AcT funding ending April 2012.

**OXFAM GB** in Tanzania is working with smallholder farmers and vulnerable groups in the regions of Ngorongoro, Tanga and Shinyanga with the aim of reaching one million people over three years.
Oxfam’s goal is to strengthen citizen-led monitoring of government service delivery and public resource management to empower communities to make their voices heard and demand accountability from government authorities.

Oxfam will receive up to GBP 1,672,410 of AcT funding ending April 2012.

**REPOA** (Research on Poverty Alleviation) specializes in economic and social research in Tanzania. Key outputs include the Poverty and Human Development Report and the Tanzania Governance Notice Board.

Through the Citizen’s and Afro-Barometer surveys, REPOA informs citizens and policy-makers on a wide range of accountability issues.

REPOA will receive up to GBP 750,000 of AcT funding ending April 2012.

**HakiElimu** aims to contribute towards transforming schools by enabling them to provide quality education for all.

With their Friends of Education Movement, HakiElimu provides a forum for people throughout Tanzania who care about education to share their views and concerns. To date there are approximately 33,000 registered members of this movement.

HakiElimu will receive up to GBP 734,830 of AcT funding ending December 2011.

**SPW** (Student Partnerships Worldwide) has a strong track record for innovative work with young people. Their goal is for young people to take a leadership role in addressing the most urgent issues facing their lives, families, and communities.

SPW supports over 1,250 young professional peer educators in over 500 rural schools and communities in Dar es Salaam, Ruvuma, Iringa and Mbeya. This network of volunteer peer educators reaches around 100,000 youths a year.

SPW will receive up to GBP 1,069,482 of AcT funding ending November 2011.

**Women’s Dignity** is best known for pioneering work on obstetric fistula, but the organisation also plays a key role in the Health Equity Group, a key independent lobbying group in the health sector.

Women’s Dignity aims to help citizens articulate their views on health rights and accountability and contribute to broad public debate. They have also created coalitions to promote health rights, accountability, and maternal health.

Women’s Dignity will receive up to GBP 352,162 of AcT grant funding ending December 2010.
LEARNING EVENT

“Have civil society organisations been effective in their work to strengthen accountability in Tanzania?”

This was the question posed by Geir Sundet, the AcT Programme Director, one of the speakers at the AcT Learning Event held in Dar es Salaam on 25 May 2010.

The event, which was facilitated by Prof. Samuel Wangwe, piloted a ‘World Café’ format with guest speakers including Rakesh Rajani from Twaweza East Africa presenting the case against CSOs, while Cassian Sanga from Tanzania Natural Resource Forum argued in favour. The Presentations triggered lively debate involving representatives from AcT’s partner organisations.

A key conclusion was the need for CSOs to be more willing and able to critique themselves and their methods. Important questions raised included:

- Do CSOs have a mandate to represent citizens and who are they really accountable to?
- How can citizens’ voices be heard better and would CSOs be more effective if they supported direct citizen-government interactions rather than setting themselves up as an intermediary?
- How can incentives in the CSO sector be changed to attract high-quality individuals and make organisations more results focused?
- Would CSOs be more innovative if there was a better understanding of how citizens are already holding the public sector accountable for service delivery and resource management?

UWEZO SEEKS TO FIND OUT WHAT CHILDREN ARE LEARNING IN SCHOOL

In May 2010, AcT partner Uwezo began its assessment of numeracy and literacy levels among children. The current assessment will cover more than 24,000 households in about 1,200 villages in 40 districts.

The results will be known shortly and will provide the evidence for a national campaign for better quality education.

Layla Ghaid, AcT’s Programme Coordinator, had the opportunity to observe an assessment taking place in Kisarawe.

“As I watched the survey being done I realized that going to school doesn’t necessarily mean that children are learning. There were second graders who couldn’t identify numbers that they should’ve known...”

AcT is a DFID funded programme managed by a KPMG led team including MDF-ESA, Delta and ODI.

To find out more please visit our website or visit our office in the PPF Tower, Dar es Salaam Address: P.O. Box 1160, Dar es Salaam; Tel: 255 22 212 2003; Email: act@accountability.or.tz Website: www.accountability.or.tz.