



GOVERNANCE AND SOCIAL ISSUES

Our research and learning has focused on:

Human and Gender Rights:

The promotion of human rights and indigenous and minority rights, through National Institutions, strategic litigation, and rights-based approaches to public policy making, plus policies for gender equity through affirmative action and gender-budgeting, as well as approaches to tackling violence against women, with a particular focus on addressing domestic violence.

Citizen security:

Community based crime prevention approaches.

Government Accountability

To citizens (vertical accountability), through policies and programmes that promote transparency and access to information, plus citizen participation in, and oversight, of budgets and programmes at each level of government; and from the Executive to Parliament (horizontal accountability).

Sample outcomes from the ELLA Network research, exchange and learning on Governance and Social Issues

NIGERIA

The country has been a focus for governance lessons from ELLA with contributions to establishing citizen information centres, to training in the use of freedom of information, to rights based budgeting, to promoting gender equity in the courts system, to improving community-based crime prevention.

NEPAL

Civil society and lawyers have used lessons from the 2012-13 Citizen Oversight and Human Rights Learning Alliances to press public interest litigation on transparency, to advocate for recognition of indigenous rights and to push for strengthening human rights institutions.

KENYA

Lessons from the 2015-16 ELLA comparative work on the accountability of government to the legislature, taken to the Kenyan Parliamentary and the East African Legislative Assembly.

GHANA

Civil society took forward lessons from the 2012 Learning Alliance on Citizen Oversight of government to re-structure the work of the Ghana Anti-Corruption Coalition, to work with the Ghana Journalist Network on transparency, and to promote community scorecards. During 2015-16, comparative research with Mexico helped civil society and female Parliamentarians understand better how to push for more action on domestic violence.

SOUTH AFRICA

A public body has taken forward the use of community scorecards for services in townships, the Democracy Institute used lessons to train on access to information, and civil society has learnt about strategic litigation and other tactics to promote humans rights.