Accountability System in Nepal's Public Sector and Developments Regarding the User Committee Audit

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Accountability for Federal Government of Nepal

Office of the Auditor General → Auditor General's Report → President → House of Representative → Ministries/Entities (Implement budget) → Public Account Committee → Directives, suggestion, Report

Ministries/Entities (Implement budget) → Audit → Regularity Audit → Performance Audit

Response to Audit report

Other Parliamentary committees → DTCO, NVC Internal check and audit
Accountability for Local Government in Nepal

Village body/Municipality Assembly

Account Committee

Chairperson /Major

LG/Entities Implement Budget

Audit Report

Regularity Audit

Performance Audit

Office of the Auditor General

Directives, suggestion, Report

Budget and Law approval , Audit report submitted and decided

Response to Audit report

Internal Audit Division
Other Measures for Accountability

- Commission for the Investigation of Abuse of Authority to investigate and prosecute if there are sufficient evidences of corruption
- National Vigilance Centre (NVC) to prevent corruption and raise public awareness, monitoring asset declarations of Officials, and technical audits
- The Right to Information (RTI) Act, National information commission
- 13 parliamentary committees in House of Representative and 4 in National assembly
- Oversight agencies such as Public Procurement Monitoring Office, Revenue Investigation Department, Judicial Council to make public official accountable
- Post a citizen charter including information about service provided by the office, process to be fulfilled, document required, time, fees, responsible officer to receive service and complaints
As per Good Governance Act, consulting with stakeholder and civil society while implementing the project of public concerned.

Performance contract with public officials with determined performance indicators.

Complaint box (grievances relating to quality, effectiveness of the service delivered) spokespersons and nodal officer.

Public Audits in the participation of labors, technicians, engineers, contractors, officials, representatives of local political parties and the local users and citizen.

As per Good Governance Act, consulting with stakeholder and civil society while implementing the project of public concerned.

Financial Procedure and Fiscal Accountability act 2019 to determine the responsibility of public Officials, Minister, Chief Accounting Officers (using resources and implementing program).
Other measures for Accountability

1. Code of conduct and code of Ethics to each public official

2. Public hearing organized inviting people, stakeholders, expert, local level government and civil society representative at least one in every 4 month,

3. Various tools can be used mobilizing CSOs, media, citizens and communities in budgeting, executing, monitoring and auditing to hold public leader and official accountable,

4. Participatory budget formulation, Simplification and Demystification of budget, Public Expenditure Tracking system, Community score card etc.
Audit of Users committee in Development Project

➢ Development project are implemented constituting user's group, specially in road, irrigation, drinking water, river bank protection etc.

➢ Hand holding with citizen in development.

Objectives

Participation, ownership, employment creation, accountability, transparency
Suggestions from Audit 2018/19

1. Legal action should be taken while subletting works to contractor by user's committee, splitting and assigning works more than limitation.

2. Complex and technical works should not be given to user's committee.

3. Only labor-based works should be given and heavy equipment should not be used.

4. Cost Sharing, quality of construction work, capacity building of user's committees.

5. Guideline should be prepared to regulate the works conducted by users' group.
Strategy of CSO Involvement and Progress

Continuous engagement between SAI (OAGN) and CSO (Freedom Forum): Progress sharing, follow up meeting

Follow up with Public Accounts Committee and Finance Committee, Ministry of Federal Affairs and General Administration

Media coverage of meeting events highlighting the issues of users' committee (print media, online media and podcast)

User's Committee Guideline developed by PPMO and Review conducted by OAGN
Strategy for Current Context

01 Virtual meetings and review due to lockdown

02 Training for journalists underway; Society of Economic Journalist Association of Nepal (SEJAN)

03 Data collection for media coverage to users' committee issues

04 Following the Guideline to know the status of the implementation of suggestions
Thank You