

[Ebook pdf] Opening the Black Box: The Contextual Drivers of Social Accountability (New Frontiers of Social Policy)

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Helene Grandvoinet, Ghazia Aslam, Shomikho Raha : Opening the Black Box: The Contextual Drivers of Social Accountability (New Frontiers of Social Policy) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Opening the Black Box: The Contextual Drivers of Social Accountability (New Frontiers of Social Policy):

Opening the Black Box: Contextual Drivers of Social Accountability fills an important knowledge gap by providing guidance on how to assess contextual drivers of social accountability effectiveness. This publication aims to more strategically support citizen engagement at the country level and for a specific issue or problem. The report proposes a novel framing of social accountability as the interplay of constitutive elements: citizen action and state action, supported by three enabling levers: civic mobilization, interface and information. For each of these constitutive elements, the report identifies 'drivers' of contextual effectiveness which take into account a broad range of contextual factors (e.g., social, political and intervention-based, including information and communication technologies). Opening the Black Box offers detailed guidance on how to assess each driver. It also applies the framework at two levels. At the country level, the report looks at 'archetypes' of challenging country contexts, such as regimes with no formal space or full support for citizen-state engagement and fragile and conflict-affected situations. The report also illustrates the use of the framework to analyze specific social accountability interventions through four case studies: Sierra Leone, Pakistan, Yemen, and the Kyrgyz Republic.

At last, we have in one place, a comprehensive picture of our current knowledge about social accountability! This book presents cutting-edge analysis, provides a synthesis of the evidence, and advances our thinking on three key fronts. Foremost, the authors take the whole issue of context seriously, examine in micro detail the various contextual factors that matter for social accountability work, what we know about them, and how they unfold in a variety of empirical cases. Further, they amplify the range of potential impacts of social accountability work and show how tracing each impact, however small, is important, as a small impact today provides the starting point for a greater impact in the future. Finally, no blueprints are offered for how to do accountability rather this is a rich set of key operational questions and signposts that will guide practitioners, researchers, and policy makers alike. This book is bound to shape accountability work for years to come. --Anuradha Joshi Fellow and Cluster Leader, Governance Team, Institute of Development Studies, University of Sussex, U.K. The social accountability book builds on the latest research to develop a comprehensive new conceptual framework, including original case studies of remarkable new citizen engagement initiatives in places where one might least expect to find them. Opening the Black Box will help both analysts and practitioners to identify and understand the moving parts involved in strategies to build pro-accountability state-society partnerships. --Jonathan Fox Professor, School of International Service, American University, Washington DC