Welcome to the Dynamic Accountability Community of Practice! In this document, you will find useful information about our community, background information about our central concept, and ways that you can engage with us further.

What is the Dynamic Accountability Community of Practice (DACoP)?

The DACoP is a space for civil society actors of all kinds to share their experiences and good practices, build knowledge and find synergies on the topic of Dynamic Accountability (see section on “what is dynamic accountability?”).

Membership to the DACoP is free and open to all civil society practitioners. We communicate through two channels which are both open to everyone:

- a Google Group where members can share updates, new ideas and ask questions
- a bimonthly newsletter where we share news and useful resources crowdsourced from community members and beyond

The DaCoP also hosts regular open dialogues for its members and other interested actors. Information is shared through the channels above and everyone is invited to join.

Who runs the DACoP? How can I get more involved?

The DaCoP is currently being coordinated by a group of colleagues from Accountable Now, Accountability Lab, the Balkan Civil Society Development Network, CIVICUS, the Nigerian Network of NGOs, and Restless Development. They make up the current Coordination Team.

The Coordination Team is open to any member who wants to join at any time to help organise DACoP activities. We want to especially encourage more community-based and South-led movements and organisations to join the Coordination Team, so that we are better able to reflect your views, needs and practices.

Our annual planning process is open to any interested member. This primarily involves an annual planning event, which is promoted in advance via the Google Group. All members are encouraged to join and input into the planning process.

Our content creation process is also open to all. We are always open to new ideas and opportunities. Just let us know if you want to work with us and create a knowledge product (this could be anything - a cheatsheet, blog post, video, webinar, or any other format for ideas that you may have!).

To join the coordination team, provide your input or to collaborate further, just let us know by contacting Bao Han (btranle@accountablenow.org).

What is Dynamic Accountability?

We are so glad you ask! Dynamic Accountability is an approach developed and used by civil society organisations (CSOs) that is grounded in processes of meaningful engagement with all stakeholders, that are inclusive, participatory and continuously practised.

In short, it means that throughout all steps of their work, CSOs are guided by inputs from consultations and dialogue with their stakeholders. Stakeholders are anyone who may be impacted by the actions of CSOs such as staff and volunteers, donors, governments, partners, and especially the communities that organisations aim to serve and support (sometimes known as “primary constituents”).

CSOs can engage their stakeholders by:

- Ensuring that information is transparent and accessible so that stakeholders can understand and hold CSOs to account
- Embedding feedback mechanisms into their work (this can be a simple drop box for suggestions, survey, consultation workshop, 1:1 dialogue - anything that allows for input to be taken)

Of course, once inputs are given, it is also important to be responsive and adapt the way CSOs work.

For more information, please see the following resources on dynamic accountability:

- Dynamic Accountability Explainer Video
- Dynamic Accountability document (it’s academic, but it’s got depth!)