



**G-Watch**  
Citizen Action for Accountability

Ako, Ikaw, Tayo  
May Pananagutan

# Love and Accountability in the Time of Pandemic

**February 14, 2021**

Quezon City | Puerto Princesa | Cebu | Bohol | Bacolod | Dumaguete  
Tacloban | Southern Leyte | Agusan del Sur | Marawi

*Ako, Ikaw, Tayo, May Pananagutan* (AIM-P) is G-Watch's nationwide awareness-raising campaign on the importance of accountability

### **Why the need for it?**

- Accountability is one of the most essential elements of democracy, yet it is the weakest: those who hold power are not accountable to the people
- Power corrupts without accountability
- Citizens must step up if they want the government to be transparent, participatory and accountable
- The campaign is a form of collective action that raises common issues and shared agenda and goals, which is important for a transformative change

AIM-P 2021 has two core messages given today's context shaped by the COVID-19 pandemic:

**Effective and safe vaccine for all!**

**Account the COVID-19 funds!**

# Effective and safe vaccine for all!


- Citizens have the right for quality services that they need: access to vaccine in a context of a pandemic is a right
- Vaccination will only work if practically all citizens are effectively and safely vaccinated
- Yet, there are now allegations of anomalies in the government's procurement of vaccine: vaccines procured are allegedly extremely overpriced and are the less effective and safe option




# Account the COVID-19 funds!

- Billions of pesos have been allocated for the COVID-19 response. This needs to be accounted for. COA and other accountability institutions must step up and report to the people.
- Why is the government prioritizing infrastructure and security at the time of the pandemic? Why don't we have enough resources for vaccines, decent health workers pay, social amelioration and job assistance?
- Citizens must act collectively to make social assistance and health the priority and that resources allocated for it are spent properly


- Created in 2000 in response to the widespread reports of corruption
- Specialized in expenditure monitoring/ program implementation monitoring from 2000-2007
- Expanded its work, linking service delivery monitoring at local to broader policy and institutional reforms at the national level
- A national network of citizen action and research for accountability that aims to deepen democracy through political reform and citizen empowerment




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**The G-Watch SAc Approach**

Objective advocacy tool  
data-and evidence-based  
community-based  
Empowerment and sustainability

joint citizen-government monitoring  
Access and support  
easy-to-use tools  
Capacitating citizens  
preventive and pre-emptive  
Limits of ex-post facto accountability

**Citizen-Government Engagement in Accountability**

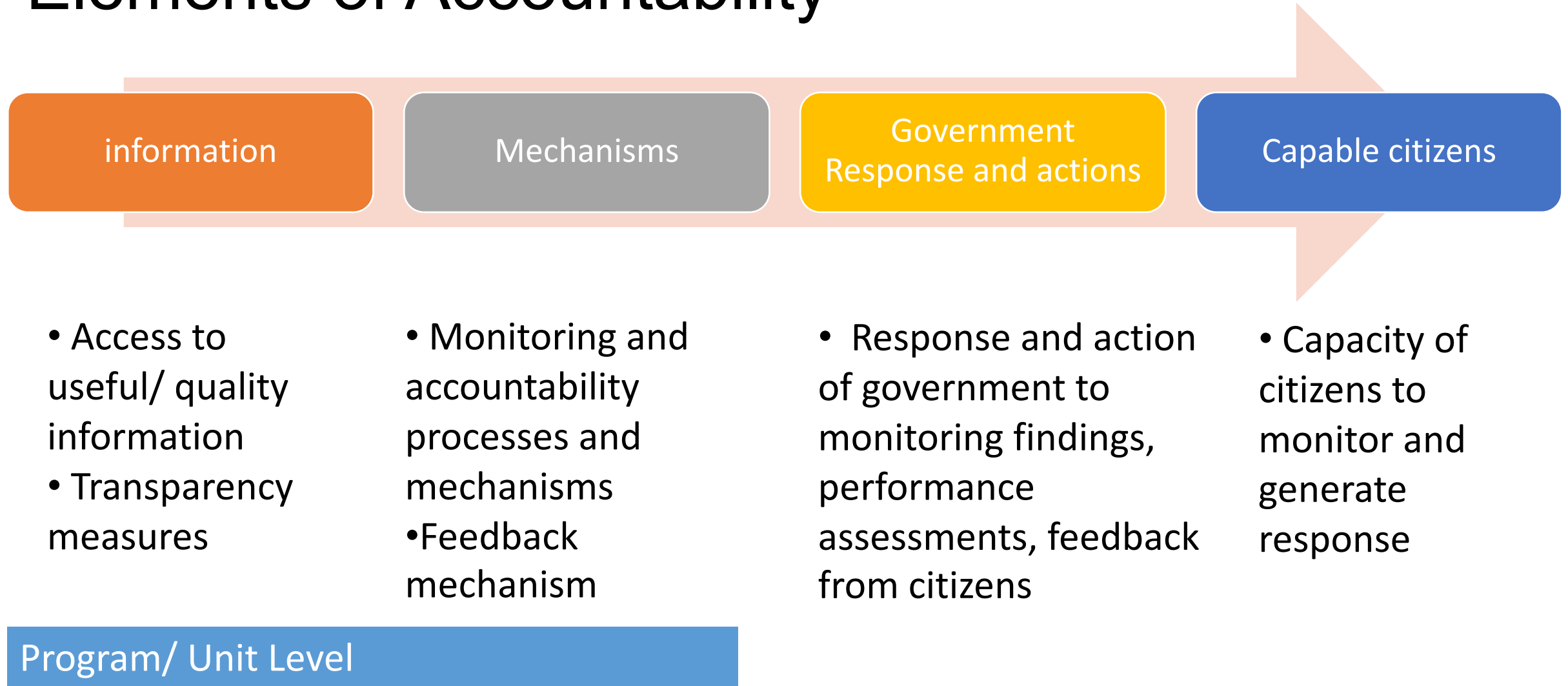
**RESULTS**

- capacitated/ mobilized citizens and civil society for monitoring
- contributed to the efficiency of service delivery: reduction of price, shortening of procurement period, ensuring projects are implemented according to standards
- provided inputs to policy/ program/ system improvement, budget preparations

# Why should citizens act on accountability?

- To fight the condition of impunity and injustice.
- State accountability mechanisms are weak/ ineffective/ insufficient.
- Citizens are the ones immediately affected by the performance (non-performance) of government.
- Accountability is proven to make government more responsive and effective.
- It prevents/ curbs corruption and inefficiencies.
- Citizens have the right to know and participate in governance.

# Elements of Accountability



# The G-Watch SAc Approach



## RESULTS

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- contributed to the efficiency of service delivery: reduction of price, shortening of procurement period, ensuring projects are implemented according to standards (prevent corruption)
- provided evidence-based inputs to policy/ program/ system improvement, budget preparations

# A G-Watcher's Creed

As a G-Watcher...

1. I believe that the power entrusted to government officials must only be used for the benefit of the people.
2. I believe that the exercise of power has corresponding accountability.
3. I understand that there are four elements of accountability: (1) access to information, (2) accountability mechanisms, (3) response from duty-bearers, and (4) effective citizen action.
4. I am a citizen-monitor. I check government performance and ensure that power is used accordingly.
5. As a citizen-monitor, I am fair, truthful and credible, with due respect for others.



# A G-Watcher's Creed

As a G-Watcher...

6. I am a defender of citizens' rights to accountable and responsive governance that I help advance through transparency, participation and innovation.

7. I believe in the power of collective citizens' voice and action to deepen democracy.

8. I am a learner in action. I harness the power that is ingrained in knowledge.

9. I am a change agent. I aim to embody the positive change that the world needs to see.

End of presentation