

Governance Matters

Challenges

The state is often regarded the key player in setting the legal and institutional framework for the public and the private sector to participate in decision-making related to social, political and economic development. Performance-oriented analyses of this paradigm evaluate to which extent the state and the public confirm, distribute, mobilize and articulate good governance features as outlined below.



GFA Approach and Services

GFA approaches governance at the macro, meso and micro levels of development and aims at improving its three dimensions – policy, polity and politics. Our experts support good governance in the policy dimension where we engage in state reform and policy dialog for national authorities and political decision makers. GFA teams advise on institutional development as part of the polity dimension. Also, we support fostering efficient and effective local governance and have in-depth knowledge and experience in facilitating negotiation processes in the politics dimension between the state, civil society and the private sector.

Policy Needs Options GFA supports national governments in policy making with the help of our experienced advisors. Our multi-disciplinary experts develop options and facilitate the assessment of alternatives in order to reach sustainable policies. We engage in reform dialog in transition countries

on command-led vs market-oriented economies and on centralized vs decentralized government structures. Under the premises of the Paris Declaration of Aid Effectiveness, we foster aligning sector policies with national strategies.

Improving Polity GFA considers reliable and accountable institutions a pre-requisite for the state to motivate the public and private sector to invest in development, economic growth and poverty alleviation. Our highly qualified experts have backgrounds in public administration and master organizational development, social and intercultural skills to advice and foster change management processes within institutions at national and local levels. GFA focuses on accountable, effective and efficient institutions in the private and public realm: We enable them to participate in decision-making with their constituents in a result-oriented manner. GFA experts use a variety of tools, training methodologies and promising practices to safeguard tangible and sustainable outcomes.

Processes Feed Politics The political dimension builds on development processes: The administration, the public, civil society and the private sector continuously try to enhance development and to secure a sustainable future under challenging circumstances. We have the skills and expertise to assist in developing, rebuilding and restructuring processes in crisis and post-conflict countries. GFA consultants define and refine processes in decentralization, financial management, rule of law and aid implementation.



GFA at Work

Service Delivery in Cambodia GIZ, 2007 – 2013

The Regional Economic Development Program supports government, private sector and civil society to better use the economic potential of Siem Reap markets for rural development and poverty alleviation.



GFA assists in improving decentralized development management and strengthening local self governance and service delivery. Our tasks comprise strategy, technical and process advice as well as qualification measures to improve service delivery. GFA experts strengthen the demand side of governance to facilitate intensified participation in decision making: People should be able to hold their councillors accountable and to provide strategic input into planning processes.

Contract Value: € 1,832,426

Good Governance Research in South Africa EU, 2010

The project was part of the South African Government's program to strengthen community-based participation in local government. It aimed at enabling citizens to influence and monitor local government policy, resource allocation, and service delivery. GFA conducted a nation-wide study on ward participation and best practices according to socio-economic and spatial criteria. Research results contributed to the policy debate and established a ward database for monitoring and evaluating performance in local governance.

Contract Value: € 1,900,000

Good Municipal Governance, Guatemala GIZ and ASDI, 2006 – 2012

PROMUDEL promotes municipal policies to improve public services, and to align these services to residents' needs. A GFA team of eleven professionals advises 35 municipalities on increasing their own revenue and improving public service delivery, especially as related to water supply. Social investments have already been increased by 25 municipalities, and two thirds will establish procedures for the participatory elaboration of their investment budget. Public information, transparency and client-oriented attention become crucial for the population to get more involved and to establish trust. As a result, such measures can help increase own revenue.

Contract Value: € 2,623,810

Good Governance in Mauritania GIZ, 2005 – 2009

GFA implemented two out of four components of the Good Governance Program. In order to strengthen local self-governance, our team advised on methods for participatory communal development that aim at poverty reduction and gender equality. We emphasized institutional development and capacity building to councilors, mayors and communal administration so that they were able to perform more effectively and efficiently. We also assisted communes and communal associations managing local economic development and communal finances. Civil society actors and the private sector were integrated in communal planning processes.

Contract Value: € 808,600



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