

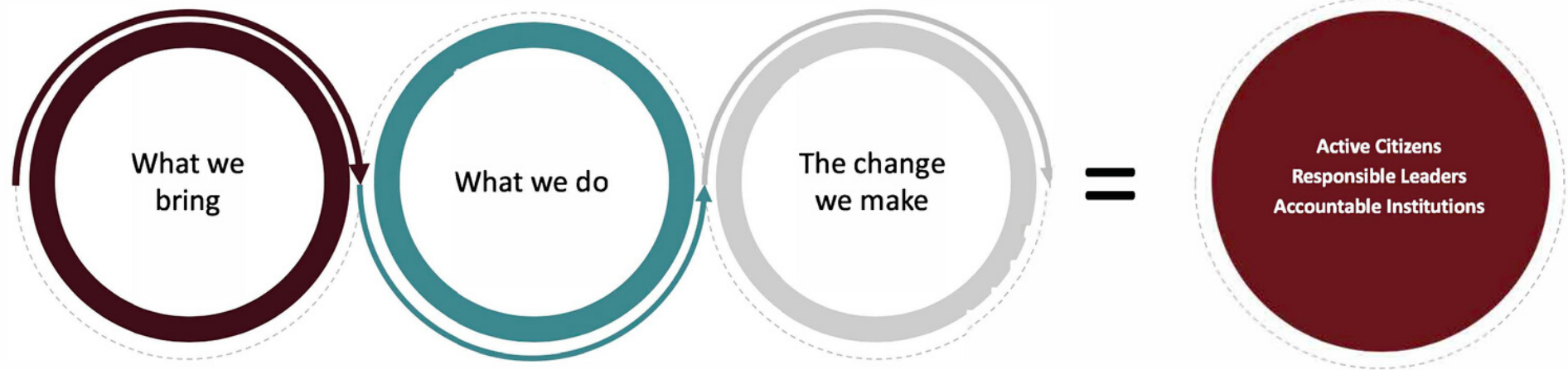


## Theories of Change

We have developed several theories of change over the lifetime of the Accountability Lab. We are proud of the fact that our understanding of our work is evolving as we iterate and learn. At any given time, we are also trying to test more than one theory of change within a given context. Accountability relates to complex social and political dynamics and building it requires multiple inter-related activities- it is not linear, nor is it singular. Our efforts are just one part of the process of change we hope to see.

We view a theory of change not just as a way to map out inputs, outputs and outcomes but as a way to understand in practical terms the causality between them; and to support double loop learning (learning that recognizes that the way a problem is defined and solved can be a source of the problem itself). As a result our theory of change is not an agreed, defined diagram- it is a living document that we amend and refine over time as we learn on the ground. Continue to see our various theories of change.

# Making governance work for people



## What we bring

- Positive narrative-building
- "Unlikely networks"
- "Insider-outsider" coalitions
- South-South feedback and learning

## What we do

- Campaigns
- Learning & training
- Collaborative spaces
- Networks and coalitions
- Convening and advocacy

## The change we make

- Collective action for systems change
- Shifting norms and changing behavior
- Influence policies, processes & practice

2020

# THEORY OF CHANGE

## ASSUMPTIONS

- All communities & voices are equal
- Individuals have the ability to change institutions and systems
- Our team lives by its values

Relationships



Human Capital



Financial Resources



Information



## PRE-CONDITIONS

- Need for accountability exists
- Political/civic space to operate
- Communities willing to participate
- Partnerships to facilitate change

COALITION BUILDING



## INTERMEDIATE OUTCOMES



KNOWLEDGE & SKILLS



COMMUNITIES FOR CHANGE

## OUTPUTS



CAMPAIGNS  
COLLABORATION HUBS



INCUBATORS & TRAINING  
FEEDBACK MECHANISMS



MULTI-STAKEHOLDER INITIATIVES  
POLICY CHANGE

## LONG-TERM OUTCOMES

ACTIVE, ENGAGED CITIZENS  
&  
RESPONSIBLE LEADERS

## OUR IMPACT

MORE INCLUSIVE &  
ACCOUNTABLE SOCIETIES

CROSS CUTTING THEMES:

ADAPTIVE LEARNING | GENDER EQUITY | SUSTAINED ENGAGEMENT

2015

# THEORY OF CHANGE

**The  
Problem**

**Our  
Solution**

**Short-Term  
Impact**

**Long-Term Impact**

**analysis**

**actions**

**engagement**

Poverty,  
inequality and  
violence because  
power-holders  
are not  
accountable  
to citizens

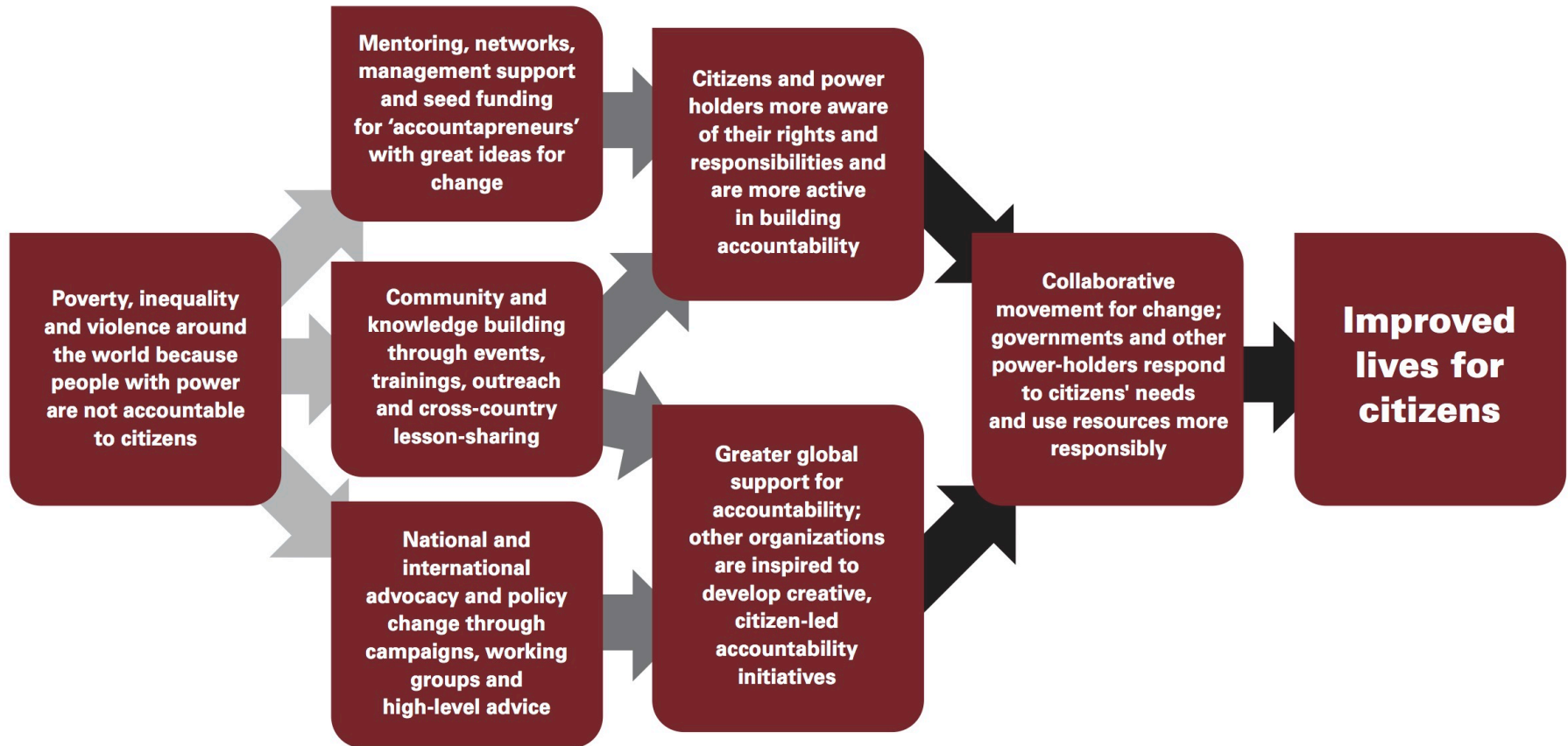
Mentoring,  
networks,  
management,  
advocacy,  
and seed  
funding for  
"accountapreneurs"  
with great ideas  
for integrity

Citizens and  
power-holders  
are more aware  
of their rights  
and responsibilities  
and actively  
work together  
to build  
accountability

Collaborative  
movement  
for change;  
governments and  
other power-holders  
respond to citizens'  
needs and use  
resources more  
responsibly

**Improved  
lives for  
citizens**

**CONTINUAL LEARNING AND ADAPTATION TO IMPROVE**

**The Problem****Our Solution****Short-Term Impact****Long-Term Impact****analysis****actions****engagement**

2012-2013

## ACCOUNTABILITY LAB THEORY OF CHANGE

