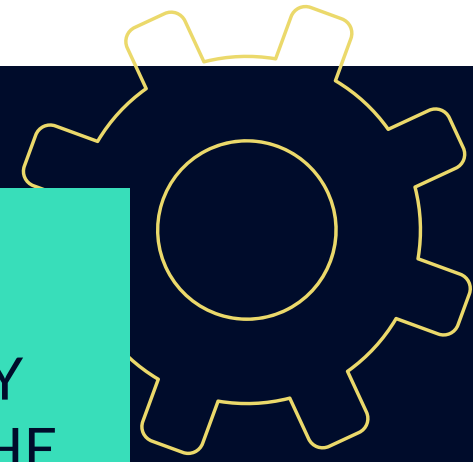
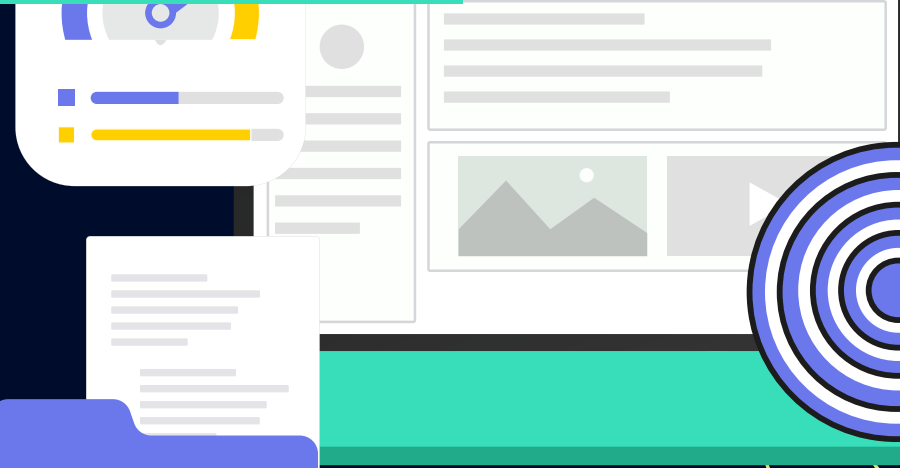
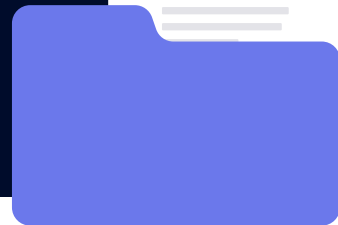


STRENGTHENING TRANSPARENCY
AND CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT IN THE
ALLOCATION AND USE OF NATURAL
RESOURCE REVENUES

IN COLOMBIA



TRANSPARENCY &
ACCOUNTABILITY
INITIATIVE



AUTHORS:

Jorge Florez

Carlos Díaz

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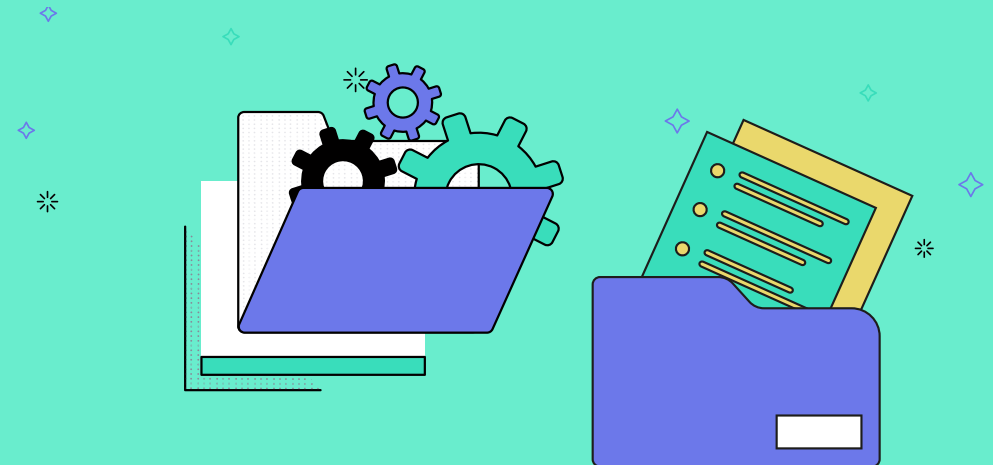
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ABOUT THE TRANSPARENCY AND ACCOUNTABILITY INITIATIVE

The Transparency and Accountability Initiative (TAI) is a donor collaborative whose members have over \$600 million in active grants working toward a world where citizens are informed and empowered, governments are open and responsive, and collective action advances the public good. Our members are the Chandler Foundation, the Ford Foundation, Luminate, the MacArthur Foundation, the Open Society Foundations, the Skoll Foundation, the United Kingdom Foreign Commonwealth and Development Office, and the William and Flora Hewlett Foundation.

ABOUT GLOBAL INTEGRITY

Global Integrity (GI) is a learning-centered organization that connects frontline actors and global players to help them navigate complex governance challenges with a systems change mindset. GI aims to support locally-led efforts to solve governance-related challenges and to ensure that public resources are used effectively, to deliver public services, and to meet people's needs.



FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

*Transparency and Accountability Initiative
OpenGov Hub, 1100 13th Street NW, #800
Washington, DC 20005*

www.transparency-initiative.org



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Executive Summary	4
1. Background	7
2. Data for Accountability Projects in Colombia	8
3. Promoting Data Use by Target Audiences	11
3.1. Improvement in Data Use by User Groups	12
3.2. Strategies to Achieve Increased Data Use and Variation Across User Groups	14
3.2.1. Programming That Adapts to Partners' Goals	14
3.2.2. Building on Existing Citizen Mobilization to Increase Sustainability	17
4. Encouraging Government Response	19
4.1. Ability to Elicit Government Response	21
4.2. Strategies Used to Elicit Government Response	22
4.2.1. Building on Partners' Positions and Roles in the Systems That They Work	22
4.2.2. Governments Need More Than Capacity to Act	24
4.2.3. Mapping Projects and Institutional Responsibility on Royalty Use to Identify More Points of Action	25
5. Implications for Donors Supporting the Use of Data for Accountability in Colombia	27
Promote the Diversification of Narratives About Data Availability and Use	27
Address Incentives and Disincentives for the Use of Data for Accountability	28
Generate Incentives for Improved Use of MEL Within and Across Projects	28
Annexes	30
Annex 1. Events About Data Use in the Extractive Sector in Colombia	30
Annex 2. Subnational Pilots Supported by Transparencia por Colombia	32
Annex 3. Summaries of TC's and CCJA's MEL	34



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Transparency and Accountability Initiative (TAI), a collaborative of leading funders of good governance programming around the world, launched its Data for Accountability (D4A) project to investigate ways to boost uptake of government data disclosures. After a field scan, TAI and its partners undertook detailed data use assessments in Colombia and Nigeria. Those findings prompted grants to test hypotheses on improving data use for greater accountability. Upon completion of those grants, TAI and its learning partner, Global Integrity (GI), have documented the findings.

This report condenses lessons from the D4A initiative in Colombia, using evidence from a collaboration with *Transparencia por Colombia (TC)* and the *Corporación Comisión de Juristas Akubadaura (CCJA)* in projects related to the use of data for accountability. The TC project focused on fostering collaboration among target users, conducting awareness campaigns, assessing the availability and accessibility of data on royalties, and supporting local partners in using this data. CCJA's project focused on supporting the national indigenous movement and local indigenous organizations in engaging with government agencies, strengthening its own organizational capacities, and strengthening the implementation of decisions by indigenous authorities. Both projects also carried out advocacy for the reform of the royalties system and achieved the inclusion of several of its recommendations in the reform process.

Both projects were successful in promoting **increased data access and use by target audiences**. TC's work contributed

to **strengthening coordination and engagement** in national coalitions and motivated an **increased number of local organizations to develop new initiatives** using data for accountability and local development. CCJA **disseminated data and analysis to organizations in the indigenous movement and supported the development of strategies and decision-making by indigenous communities and national organizations**.

TC AND CCJA HAD DIFFERENT APPROACHES AND TARGET AUDIENCES, BUT THEY SHARED ELEMENTS THAT CONTRIBUTED TO THEIR SUCCESS:

- They devoted significant effort to understanding partners' capacities, the roles they play in their contexts, the challenges they faced, and how data could help address these challenges.
- They relied on existing processes for mobilization, setting joint agendas with their partners, and identifying the information and capacities that partners would need to use data to achieve their goals in their contexts. This enabled them to build up data use as part of the incremental processes their partners are working towards.

Both projects were able to achieve increased responsiveness on transparency and participation from government agencies, but their effect in terms of accountability is hard to assess given the scope and pace of the reform of the royalties system and the political context in the country. The area where they had more success was in the **inclusion of recommendations in the reform of the royalties system**.

Additionally, TC collaborated with the national government to **improve the publication of data** and encouraged improvements in **subnational practices for data reporting and dissemination**.

In terms of the strategies used to elicit government response, CCJA focused on supporting indigenous representatives in decision-making spaces, in the legislative, and in local communities to demand the protection and advancement of indigenous rights and priorities. This meant that these representatives were the ones engaging government agencies by design. TC and its subnational partners used engagement strategies that depended on the level of government and the goals of the engagement. These changes were driven by:

- **The analysis, co-developed with partners, about their position and role in the systems that they work, and a continued assessment of the opportunities and challenges emerging from the progress, or lack of progress, in the implementation of royalties reform. This analysis informed strategies for developing, presenting, and using evidence.**
- **The identification and use of narratives and incentives for government representatives that can encourage actions, and the incorporation of these narratives and incentives in capacity building and engagement strategies.**
- **The mapping of institutional responsibilities and roles to identify diverse entry points for engagement. These entry points would then be leveraged using a problem-centered approach and relying on flexible legal and technical support built into the project by design.**

SOME LESSONS THAT TAI MEMBERS AND OTHER DONORS CAN USE TO PROMOTE THE USE OF DIFFERENT NARRATIVES FOR ENCOURAGING THE USE OF DATA FOR ACCOUNTABILITY INCLUDE:

- **Promote the diversification of narratives about data availability and use by:**
 - Encouraging greater connection between existing participatory processes and data for accountability projects.
 - Incentivizing approaches that go beyond investigating individual instances of corruption towards leveraging findings to inform mid to long-term strategies for changing government narratives and practices.
 - Investing in projects that strengthen the capacities of existing citizen mobilization initiatives to use data as a way to identify and address development challenges through co-creation.
- **Address incentives and disincentives for the use of data for accountability by:**
 - Investing in actionable research on incentives and disincentives for the publication and use of data for accountability at the national and subnational level.
 - Facilitating peer learning about existing data use approaches.

■ **Generate incentives for the improved use of monitoring, evaluation, and learning (MEL) within and across projects by:**

- Providing guidance and support to grantees related to project design and the use of MEL. This should go beyond data availability, analysis, and dissemination, and into issues such as:

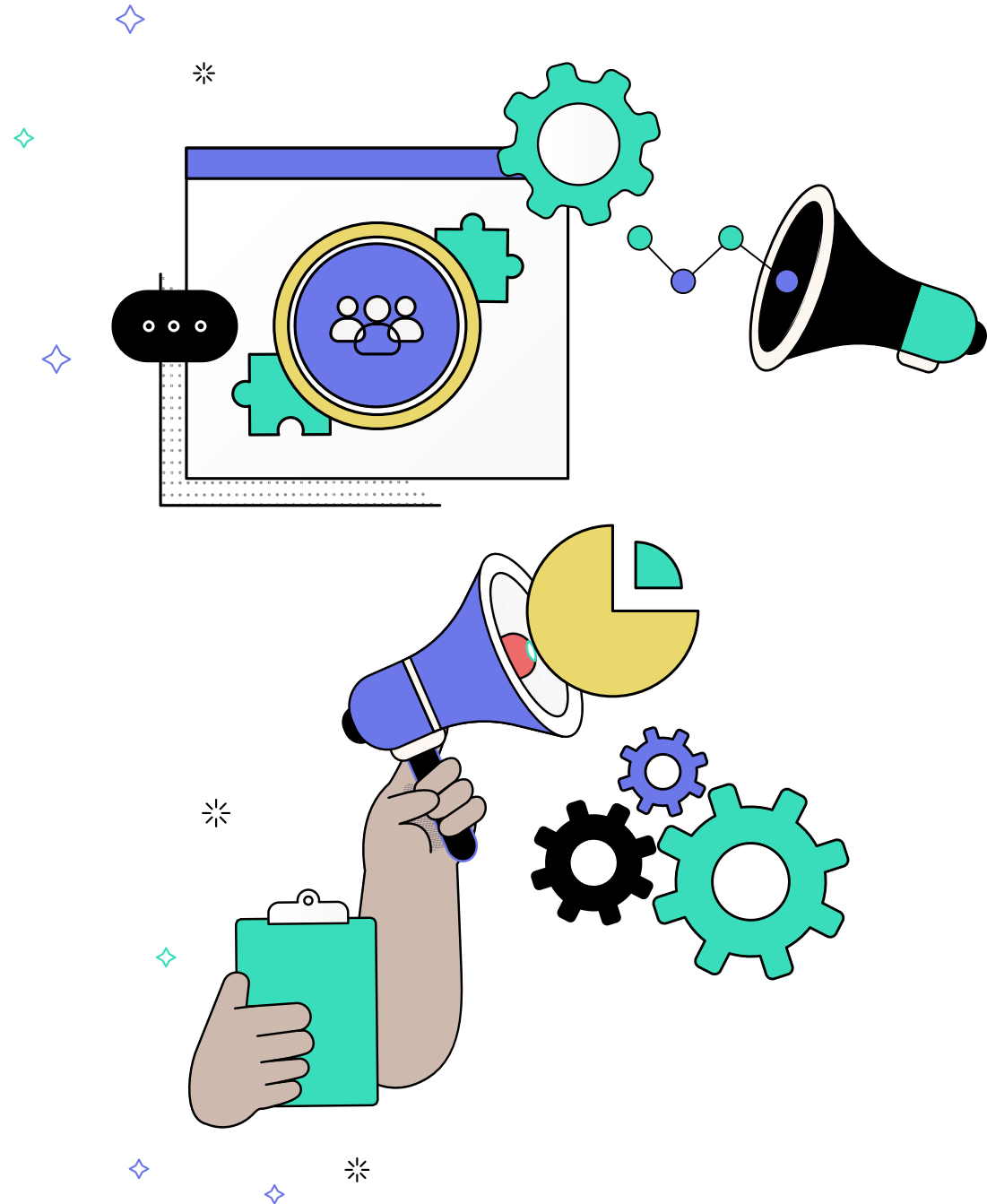
The alignment of projects with wider organizational strategies.

The incentives for the use of outputs by leading organizations, target audiences, and other relevant stakeholders in the context, and strategies to shift those incentives.

The institutional context of data use.

The assumptions about how data can be used by target audiences to achieve their goals.

- Encouraging flexibility in programming to continuously adapt to the needs and goals of target audiences.
- Creating spaces for dialogue about the role of MEL in grantees programming, including more coordinated efforts for strengthening the field of organizations working on governance, development, and service delivery issues, including through the use of data.



1

BACKGROUND

Members of the Transparency & Accountability Initiative (TAI) collaborative, as well as many other donors, have [invested heavily](#) in increasing accessibility and promoting the use of data, including data about the extractive industries and their contribution to national and local development. Despite increases in the availability of data in many countries, the successful use of this data to solve problems related to public decision-making, corruption, and the misuse of public resources is rare and the impact of these investments, while real, remains limited.

To explore these issues further and identify ways to address them, TAI launched the D4A initiative, which included two detailed country scopings and the subsequent funding of four projects in Nigeria and Colombia. Global Integrity (GI) was hired as a learning partner for the initiative. GI provided monitoring, evaluation and learning (MEL) support to the grantees, facilitated multi-stakeholder dialogue on the reform of the royalties system, acted as a bridge between TAI members and grantees, and distilled lessons from the work in each country and across countries. In Colombia, TAI also partnered with the International Finance Corporation (IFC) to carry out a landscape review about the use of extractives data and to launch a [call for proposals](#) for advancing the use of extractives data in Colombia.

The TAI and IFC [scoping study](#) identified challenges related to the use of extractives data in Colombia:

- **PROBLEMATIC DATA PRODUCTION AND AGGREGATION.** Data is dispersed across multiple public systems, aggregated at the national level, and difficult to use for relevant purposes at the subnational level.
- **MISMATCH OF DATA SUPPLY AND DEMAND.** The data being published and disseminated is not necessarily data that stakeholders consider useful and, therefore, their incentives or motivation to access and use it is limited.
- **DATA DISSEMINATION PROBLEMS.** There is a lack of interest and capacity among local authorities to disseminate data.
- **LACK OF AWARENESS OF RELEVANT DATA SOURCES.** Communication strategies are not in place to promote the use of data portals and other types of data released in government reports.
- **IMPEDIMENTS TO DATA ACCESS.** Capacities to use data vary widely among stakeholders. Also, they face challenges in accessing additional information, given that mechanisms for requesting information are complex and not standardized.
- **LACK OF TRUST IN DATA.** Data users have many concerns about the quality, timeliness, and accuracy of the data available.

This report is part of a series of D4A outputs including: a [scoping report for Nigeria](#); landscape reviews for [Colombia](#) and [Nigeria](#); notes about donor collaboration in Colombia and [Nigeria](#), and GI's role as learning partner; pieces drawing lessons from the work in Colombia (this report) and [Nigeria](#); and a [note](#) reflecting on the implications of these findings for future donor investments.

2 DATA FOR ACCOUNTABILITY PROJECTS IN COLOMBIA

This Colombia-specific report condenses lessons from collaborations with Transparencia por Colombia (TC) and Corporación Comisión de Juristas Akubadoura (CCJA) in projects related to the use of data for accountability to answer learning questions raised by TAI donors and partners. These questions focus on the use of data by target audiences and government response elicited through the use of data.

THEME	LEARNING QUESTIONS
Facilitating data use by target audiences	<p>What strategies are effective in facilitating data use among target user groups?</p> <p>How do these strategies differ across user groups and how do those differences affect the achievement of project goals?</p>
Encouraging government response through the use of data	<p>What strategies are effective in encouraging government agencies to take action to increase responsiveness and accountability?</p> <p>How do these strategies differ across administrative levels and how do those differences affect the achievement of project goals?</p>

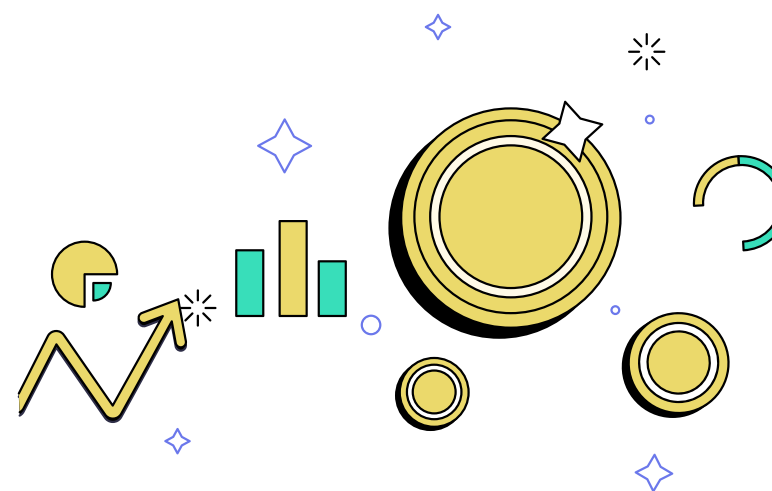
The TC project focused on fostering collaboration among target users, carrying out awareness campaigns, assessing the availability and accessibility of data on royalties, and supporting local partners in using this data. TC worked closely with organizations in the [Mesa de la Sociedad Civil para la Transparencia en las Industrias Extractivas](#) (Mesa Platform). CCJA's project focused on supporting the national indigenous movement and local indigenous organizations in engaging with government agencies and strengthening their own organizational capacities. CCJA provided technical assistance and expert advice to inform indigenous decision-making and strengthen the implementation of decisions by indigenous authorities and leaders.

The projects are described briefly in the table below, and their theories of change were as follows:

- **TC:** By improving the use of data on royalties from the extractive sector, TC and its partners will be able to improve their advocacy for transparency, participation, and accountability in the royalties system, and strengthen efforts to demand accountability around the use of these resources at the subnational level.
- **CCJA:** By improving the availability and use of information about projects that affect indigenous people, CCJA can enhance its participation in discussions and decisions about the use of royalties, and this will enable it to achieve better development results. This will, in turn, enable CCJA to strengthen its support to the indigenous social movement and thus help it advance indigenous priorities more effectively.

PARTNER	TARGET USER GROUPS	TYPE OF DATA PRIORITIZED	MAIN ACTIVITIES IMPLEMENTED	GOALS
Transparencia por Colombia (TC)	Civil society organizations (CSOs) Local and national media Local and national government agencies	Investment of royalties in public projects	Training sessions Targeted support for citizen oversight Advocacy for the reform of the royalties system Advocacy for improvements in data publication at national and local levels	Empower citizens to use data from the extractive sector to demand transparency, participation, and accountability. Advocate for increased transparency, participation, and accountability in the royalties system.
Corporación Comisión de Juristas Akubadaura (CCJA)	Local and national indigenous organizations International organizations and diplomats	Investment of royalties in indigenous communities Information about extractive projects	Training sessions for indigenous communities Targeted support to indigenous organizations Advocacy for the reform of the royalties system	Use data on extractive royalties, and Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC), to increase transparency, participation, and accountability on issues relevant for indigenous communities.

GI used different approaches with each partner. Its support to TC focused on coordinating its portfolio related to extractives transparency and accountability (including projects funded by other non-TAI member donors), and defining qualitative and quantitative indicators to track progress. GI's support to CCJA was based on its indigenous practices and its handling of sensitive information both related to indigenous priorities and strategies, as well as to judicial processes. GI co-developed a theory of change, identified learning priorities, and identified key qualitative information to track project implementation. It also facilitated a series of



learning exchanges with organizations in the region and the indigenous movement. Both partners were responsible for collecting data on project implementation, and then GI facilitated reflection sessions with them to discuss project implementation and course correction.

The main sources of data about implementation of partners' projects used throughout to inform partners' work and distill lessons were:

- 32 interviews with experts on extractives and data and local civil society organizations (CSOs) working with TC
- Two focus group discussions with members of the Mesa Platform
- A four-part event series enabling multi-stakeholder dialogue on the reform of the royalties system
- Two peer learning events with organizations in Colombia and the Andean region
- Participation in three hybrid events facilitated by TC¹
- Indicator data collected by TC and CCJA as part of their MEL plans
- Documentation from reflection sessions with TC and CCJA

1. See Annex 2.



3

PROMOTING DATA USE BY TARGET AUDIENCES

Colombia is well placed regularly in international indicators for the availability of open data. Nevertheless, as shown by the TAI and IFC scoping study and reviews by others,² there are many remaining challenges in terms of the effective use of this data for improving government practices and for solving problems related to public decision-making, corruption, and the misuse of public resources.³ In this context, CCJA and TC set out to promote and support the use of extractives data for accountability.

CCJA and TC had different approaches and target audiences:

- CCJA's role as a support organization to the indigenous movement placed it in an excellent position to play the role of infomediary and provide technical support to national and subnational indigenous organizations. CCJA's support focused on laws and regulations, institutional processes, and requirements for accessing resources from the royalties system. It carried out research on relevant topics for indigenous organizations at the national and subnational level, and then provided this data in understandable and actionable ways to inform indigenous decision-making. Issues ranged from retrospective distribution and access to resources from the royalties system, to earmarked resources that communities can access, to analysis of potential threats to the territory⁴ – by using maps on projects being planned

that could affect indigenous land, and to Free, Prior, and Informed Consent (FPIC) consultations.

INDIGENOUS MOVEMENT AND ROYALTIES

Colombia has more than 80 indigenous communities, many of whom have mobilized and used legal strategies to achieve the recognition of their rights and jurisdiction over their territories (resguardos) from the national government. Indigenous communities are organized through several regional and national organizations; the biggest one being the national [Organización Nacional Indígena de Colombia \(ONIC\)](#). Since the early 1990s, indigenous mobilization has achieved many important successes including: the recognition of resguardos, including administrative and legal jurisdiction within these territories; the regulation of FPIC consultations; and the creation of different participatory spaces where they can voice their interests and advocate for improved regulation, the allocation of resources, and the implementation of projects that benefit indigenous communities. Despite these wins, their implementation and practical impact has been slow, limited, or inconsistent.

2. See for instance the [OECD review](#) on digital government in Colombia.

3. It is important to note that there are some reviews that provide signs of progress, such as the [research](#) by the Interamerican Development Bank or this [story](#) by the Open Contracting Partnership.

4. This type of information was acquired by communities with rights over lands, with CCJA supporting in requesting, understanding, and using the information for decision-making about indigenous development plans.

Although there is regulation on paper, oftentimes indigenous peoples have suffered violence and violation of their rights, leading to continued mobilization throughout the country and at the national level, and continued use of strategic litigation to defend their rights and improve their development.⁵

- TC used an approach that built on the Mesa Platform and aimed to strengthen the use of data about projects funded with royalties by member organizations to inform joint advocacy efforts, social accountability, and participatory planning at the local level.

MESA DE LA SOCIEDAD CIVIL PARA LA TRANSPARENCIA EN LAS INDUSTRIAS EXTRACTIVAS

[\(Mesa Platform\)](#)

The Mesa Platform is a coalition created in 2013 that brings together more than twenty CSOs working at the national and subnational levels on issues related to extractive industries. This platform articulates the participation of civil society in the Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (EITI) in Colombia. In addition, the platform enables coordination among members on issues of transparency, participation, and accountability with regards to policy reform, the allocation and use of public resources, and the contribution of extractive industries to national and local development.

3.1

Improvement in Data Use by User Groups

Even with the nominal availability of different data sources and platforms to enable citizens to identify and track the implementation of projects funded with royalties, accessing and using this information remains challenging.

THE ROYALTIES SYSTEM IN COLOMBIA

The royalties system in Colombia, which was reformed in 2020, receives all the money obtained from extractives royalties in the country and allocates those resources in nine different ways that reach producing and non-producing municipalities. It aims to achieve: equitable distribution to municipalities and regions in the country; progress towards energy transition; the protection of environmental and human rights; and the funding of the implementation of the peace agreement. The funds are distributed through direct allocations to municipalities (which include a percentage for indigenous communities) and departments, six regional decision-making spaces, one decision-making space for peace, and one decision-making space for science and technology. The remaining funds are used for saving and stabilization, monitoring and evaluation, operation and administration, and environmental allocation.⁶

5. For more on these issues, see [here](#) and [here](#).

6. For more details on the system, see pages 25 - 29 [here](#).

As the research undertaken by IFC and TAI established, an advanced understanding of the institutional processes, government jargon, and existing databases is needed to be able to go beyond general project information. In all cases, participants had to rely on freedom of information (FOI) requests to access the information needed for effective monitoring, such as auditing reports, changes in project design, and detailed updates on implementation. Accessing this additional information is quite hard given that it is rarely centralized, but instead held by a mix of local authorities or implementing agencies. Relatedly, access to information about public decision-making is very limited. These challenges add costs for data use and limit its scope to after-the-case action rather than to active engagement in shaping development.

Both projects were successful in promoting increased data access and use by target audiences. However, what success meant in each project and the remaining challenges they faced was different, reflective of their varying approaches and target audiences.

TC carried out data analysis and research that informed debates within the Mesa Platform about the reform of the royalties system and enabled it to achieve the adoption of recommendations in the reformed system. TC also supported ten local pilots that used royalties data to mobilize citizens in efforts to promote local debate and identify corruption.⁷ These activities contributed to strengthening coordination and engagement in the Mesa Platform, and motivated an increased number of local organizations to develop new initiatives using data for accountability and local development.

CCJA strengthened its capacity to use data on royalties and disseminate this information to organizations in the indigenous movement. It used different types of data in relation

to royalties and extractives to support the development of strategies and decision-making by indigenous communities and national organizations. It is important to note that indigenous communities have autonomy, administrative mandates, and organizational strength that, to some extent, improve their position when demanding earmarked resources or effective implementation from authorities. CCJA's approach factors this into the support it provides, giving advice and support, but being careful not to take over the role of indigenous communities and organizations.



⁷ See Annex 2 for a full list of the pilots supported by TC, including goals and results.

3.2

Strategies to Achieve Increased Data Use and Variation Across User Groups

Both projects had different approaches and target audiences, but they shared elements that contributed to their success:

- They devoted significant effort to understanding their partners' capacities, the roles they play in their local contexts, the challenges they face, and how data could help address these challenges.
- They relied on existing processes for the mobilization of their target audiences, the Mesa Platform, and the organizational structures of the indigenous social movement.

3.2.1

Programming That Adapts to Partners' Goals

The projects differed in terms of how they engaged their audiences and what they hoped to achieve. CCJA's target audience is made up of indigenous authorities. TC's partners are national and local civil society organizations and media outlets, mostly affiliated with the Mesa Platform.

In addition to setting joint agendas with their partners, both projects identified the information and capacities that partners would need to use data to achieve their goals in their contexts, and adapted their programming accordingly. This strategy enabled them to navigate challenges, such as the disincentives created by the capture of decision-making processes by elites, by building data use into the incremental

processes their partners had already worked towards. These processes included strengthening the capacity of local vulnerable groups to use evidence, generating data-informed stories, and mobilizing citizens around local development planning.

CCJA had meetings with indigenous authorities and leaders to align their agendas and identify themes and opportunities to provide technical and legal support. It carried out similar exercises with the authorities of indigenous communities in Chidima-Tolo, Pescadito, and Mesetas. CCJA adapted its approach to meet its partners' capacities and priorities. At the national level, it provided technical support to inform indigenous advocacy in decision-making spaces and debates about the reform of the royalties system. This support was based on demand, responding to concerns and questions, and providing concepts and feedback on advocacy strategies to engage the different branches of government. These efforts were complemented by raising awareness of international organizations and spaces such as the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights.

CCJA'S APPROACH FOR COLLABORATING WITH INDIGENOUS COMMUNITIES

The CCJA process starts with visits to communities lasting several days to better understand how they see their territory and their development, what existing or prospective extractive projects are in the territories, and their experience engaging with government agencies at the

national, regional, and local levels.⁸ During these visits, CCJA and the communities would agree on the main challenges indigenous people were facing and use these agreements to prioritize and focus the use of data, research, and technical assistance in a way that made findings and activities timely, responsive to demand, and useful for making planning decisions.

At the subnational level, CCJA relied on different didactic and informal strategies to engage the communities, using tools such as humor and comics to convey complex concepts and also listening carefully to use local communities' expressions and sayings as a way to strengthen the relationship and create trust. The use of these tools varied widely based on the cultural backgrounds and capacities of community leaders.

TC carried out dialogues with partners to align project implementation and activities related to the use of data at the national and subnational levels. At the national level, TC discussed project activities and how these could contribute to the goals of the Mesa Platform in terms of increasing members' capacities, promoting collaboration among them and other organizations, and strengthening advocacy through the use of evidence. At the subnational level, its work with partners was aligned to the identified national priorities, but flexible enough to allow partners to adjust their approach in light of local capacities and to address relevant challenges in their territories. This created space for collaboration between local and national partners, while also testing different approaches to promote the use of data for accountability.

TC used different research and communication approaches to support their partners in data analysis, the presentation of results, and activities for engagement with local organizations. The factors that were more salient for the adaptations to its programming included its partners' capacities, priorities, and the level of existing engagement with target audiences and local authorities. Some partners required support with basic data management, others needed assistance in the dissemination of results and engagement with local audiences, while others required help with the use of evidence to engage authorities and accountability agencies. Acknowledging and understanding these differences enabled TC to provide guidance on different types of analysis, including combining datasets to gather detailed information about specific projects, reviewing how resources were allocated and used, and wider research about the alignment of investments to local development priorities.



8. COVID-19-related lockdowns posed challenges to this work, requiring CCJA to begin with online sessions until in-person visits were viable. This was an important challenge given that communities often live far from towns and have limited to no internet access.

TC paid special attention to enabling its partners to build narratives that were appealing to their local audiences. It also provided legal support to partners to write FOI requests, follow up on those requests through the judiciary, and file complaints about the misuse of public resources.⁹

The initiatives supported by TC ranged from women and youth organizations using regulated spaces for participation (e.g., social committees), to carrying out territorial analysis and advocacy about the use of royalties in a territory, to overseeing the investment of royalties in particular projects and sectors, and to tracking the use of royalties for COVID-19 response and recovery. Listening to partners' goals and needs was key to informing TC's plans for developing data tools to enable further work in relation to royalties.

The feedback TC received from its partners made it realize that fixed tools for project tracking and/or procurement analysis would not be as cost-effective as imagined, given that challenges with data availability, dispersion of data across systems, and ongoing changes to the royalties system required its partners to be more strategic in their efforts to use data. Based on this, TC adapted its plans from developing one tool for tracking the investment of royalties to developing guidelines on different ways to identify data needs, find data sources related to those needs, combine datasets, and carry out analysis – all designed to increase the salience of findings. This approach has proved more effective in motivating its local partners to use data to advance their local processes and, in turn, to strengthen their capacities to use data beyond the project.

The support CCJA and TC provided also included accompaniment in engaging government agencies at different levels to advance goals such as:

- Improving the dissemination of data and spaces for public debate on the investment of royalties.
- Demanding adequate implementation of particular projects.
- Reviewing local development needs and assessing whether investment in projects met them.
- Assessing the effectiveness of policies and proposing reforms.
- Requesting increased access to resources for vulnerable groups.
- Demanding oversight action by local accountability agencies.

These experiences surfaced lessons related to assessing partners' needs and tailoring programming to meet them:

■ **USE OF DATA VARIES WIDELY DEPENDING ON GOALS AND CONTEXT.**

The experience of TC and CCJA shows that, even within the same target audiences and in a somehow similar context (national and subnational level work in Colombia), data use promoters value different approaches. Variances reflect differences not just in existing capacities and relationships, but also differences in terms of ability to act without being exposed to harm. By understanding such differences, CCJA and TC were able to support instances of data use in a way

⁹ Legal support was provided through the Advocacy and Legal Advice Centre. You can read more about the filing of corruption complaints about resources for COVID-19 response and recovery [here](#).

that motivated partners to further increase their capacity for data use in their organizations and develop plans for innovating in the future.

■ SUPPORTING DATA USE GOES WELL BEYOND DATA ANALYSIS AND TOOLS.

Efforts to promote the use of data usually focus on data availability, capacities for using data, and the development of tools for analyzing and visualizing information. However, the target audiences for these efforts also need support in integrating these tools into their existing work and transforming their approaches based on what they learn about government functioning through the data. This means that use cases evolve over time due to political complexity, the strategies of corrupt actors for capturing resources and power, and contextual narratives.

■ 3.2.2

Building on Existing Citizen Mobilization to Increase Sustainability

Relying on existing citizen mobilization structures was important for both organizations and their partners to achieve results and increase the sustainability of their efforts. Nevertheless, this requires more than just identifying a data source and employing appropriate analysis techniques. It means enabling engagement and coordination based on the evidence produced and supporting the tactics and strategies needed to generate action and achieve responsiveness from other relevant stakeholders in government and civil society.

A clear example of this was the presentation of different analyses about the historical allocation of resources to

indigenous communities across the country. CCJA supports indigenous leaders to factor these analyses into the indigenous FPIC position on the reform of the royalties system.

For its part, TC collaborates with partners to develop internal tools to strengthen data gathering, analysis, and dissemination. Such tools informed the roll out of targeted strategies to advocate for the improved allocation of royalties for community projects as well as for follow-up on the implementation of said projects. ✧



Some lessons from the work by TC and CCJA building on existing civic structures include:

■ **MECHANISMS FOR CONTINUED FEEDBACK AND THE TAILORING OF COLLABORATION WITH TARGET AUDIENCES ARE KEY FOR PROJECT SUCCESS.**

The contexts in which data use happens are continuously evolving in response to factors such as changes in government priorities and staffing, and relationships with key stakeholders in government, civil society, and accountability agencies. There are opportunities and challenges identified through the use of data (e.g., practices or structures for capturing resources) that can shape how audiences want to act on the findings or the analysis they would like to perform. All of these factors can have implications for how target audiences use data to inform their advocacy and engagement strategies, and also their ability to do so. Listening to, and acting on, the evolution of these needs increases the chances of projects achieving impact and audiences appropriating the use of data in their work.

■ **FLEXIBILITY TO ADAPT PROGRAMMING SHOULD BE BUILT INTO PROJECT DESIGN FROM THE BEGINNING.**

In order to effectively support data use, it is important to have good technical capacities, but it is also important to build in flexibility to adapt programming to respond to partners' needs. Flexibility also helps partners leverage existing relationships to navigate data quality and availability issues and the risk of political capture of decision-making spaces and accountability mechanisms.



4

ENCOURAGING GOVERNMENT RESPONSE

The link between using data to achieve government action on findings and increased overall responsiveness to civil society demands is not straightforward and varies depending on the government agencies and branches that are targeted and the level at which they work. There is a wide diversity of opportunities and limitations for encouraging action by government agencies in Colombia. These include numerous formally designated spaces for participation. However, such spaces rarely prove effective as channels for meaningfully translating citizen demands into government action because:

- The availability and scope of such spaces tend to depend on the willingness and discretion of the agencies involved and the issues to be addressed.
- Mechanisms for obtaining feedback on regulations and policies have been improved, but the level to which this input is taken into account remains unclear.
- Government-led spaces tend to serve as one-way information channels for giving updates about public agencies' work towards goals stated in development plans, mostly publicizing achievements rather than providing opportunities to discuss challenges or improvements.

- Government-led initiatives to promote citizen participation are focused mainly on the oversight of investments, with little to no promotion of participation in the allocation of resources and the prioritization of projects.

The details about how these challenges play out in practice vary widely across and within branches of government and administrative levels. There are champions for transparency and participation in different government agencies, but often they face constraints in their efforts to advance transparency, participation, and accountability. Oftentimes, success in encouraging government action is related directly to the relationships that civil society leaders have with public servants, elected representatives, and staff in accountability agencies.

TRANSPARENCY, PARTICIPATION, AND ACCOUNTABILITY IN THE REFORMED ROYALTIES SYSTEM

The lack of effective opportunities for participation in decision-making was highlighted by the research by TAI and IFC as one of the biggest challenges in promoting the use of data for accountability in Colombia. The reform to the royalties system introduced several changes:¹⁰

- A shift in the allocation of resources, which reduced savings from the system to increase resources for producing regions, and to allocate resources to indigenous communities and environmental issues, among other changes.

10. See [here](#) for an overview of the reform by the mining ministry.

- The elimination of most regional and local decision-making spaces, and related opportunities for participation, assigning greater autonomy to regional and municipal authorities as long as citizens are consulted during project development planning.
- The inclusion of minority representation in the system's general council, with voice and vote only for issues that affect those communities directly.
- The mandated launch of a new data system for issues related to royalties.

It is still too early to assess if the simplification of decision-making will increase opportunities for citizen participation, but for now the prospects seem low.¹¹

TC, CCJA, and their partners tried different approaches to encourage government responsiveness:

- Directly engaging government agencies to identify changes needed and to support the implementation of those changes.
- Leveraging the engagement of partners in participatory spaces, especially those related to vulnerable groups and indigenous people.
- Linking data use outputs to existing participatory planning spaces and processes.
- Generating joint recommendations (TC with the Mesa Platform and CCJA with the indigenous movement) to advocate for improvements in regulation and implementation.

The use of these approaches enabled both organizations to achieve some level of response from government agencies with regards to royalties data publication and dissemination, but also the broader reform of the royalties system.

It is important to note that access to information through formal FOI requests continues to present a challenge. To have a reasonable chance of receiving the requested information, it is important to have very good knowledge of government functions and to use specific language in formulating requests to avoid giving a procedural reason to dismiss the request. The COVID-19 pandemic has exacerbated delays in government responses. The government has used the pandemic as a justification to increase the time that its agencies have to respond and to provide limited or no information.¹²



11. See [here](#) for a review about opportunities for participations in the extractive sector in Colombia.

12. For more on the effect of COVID-19 and civic unrest on access to information in the country, see [here](#).

4.1

Ability to Elicit Government Response

Both projects were able to achieve improved responsiveness from government agencies, especially pertaining to transparency and participation, but the impact in terms of accountability is hard to assess, given the scope and pace of the reform of the royalties system, the implementation of this reform, and the political context.

The area where both organizations had more success in achieving government responsiveness was the reform of the royalties system. TC and CCJA, in collaboration with their partners, were able to get several of their recommendations included in the law.

Additionally, TC was able to collaborate with the national government to improve the publication of data and encourage improvements in subnational practices for data dissemination and reporting. The combination of joint recommendations and advocacy enabled CCJA and TC to improve the design for transparency, accountability, and participation in the reform of the royalties system. This reform added additional transparency obligations and modified the opportunities for citizen participation in decision-making. The inclusion of recommendations by CCJA and TC in the reform of the royalties system is clear, although most of these inclusions require further regulation and then implementation to become reality.¹³

The support for improving data availability and dissemination of data provided by TC was rated by government agencies as very important for the changes in data systems and platforms that happened during the period. The most salient contributions relate to the incorporation of recommendations

about data publication in the “[Mapa Inversiones](#)” platform and the use of methodologies and insights from the work by TC to guide the design and implementation of the “citizen auditors” platform.

The use of this approach in collaboration with local partners has also led to results at the subnational level, with several local government agencies beginning to try out different ways to share information and collaborate with citizens, and to support social accountability initiatives.



¹³. For an assessments by each organization about the reform, see [here](#) ; and [here](#).

4.2

Strategies Used to Elicit Government Response

CCJA focused on supporting indigenous representatives in decision-making spaces for vulnerable groups and in the legislative to more effectively demand the protection and advancement of indigenous rights and priorities.¹⁴ Similarly, at the subnational level, it worked to enable indigenous leaders to protect the interests and rights of their communities and to advance their development based on their own planning processes. Approaches to encourage government action were mediated by the efforts of national and local indigenous organizations. The exception to this is the continued work of CCJA, often in collaboration with other Colombian and regional organizations, to voice concerns and complaints regarding indigenous rights in international spaces, such as the Inter-American Court of Human Rights and the United Nations oversight mechanisms.

Changes in engagement with government agencies by TC and its subnational partners happened because of the goals that organizations were trying to achieve in the engagement, and the level at which the engagement happened (i.e., national versus subnational). These changes were driven by listening to partners' needs and the challenges faced by target government agencies.

It is important to note that TC also plays an important role in strengthening civil society collaborations and in its shared position in participatory spaces, such as EITI. It does so through the Mesa Platform, pursuing combinations of advocacy based on joint recommendations, efforts mediated by local organizations and initiatives (mostly through citizen oversight and media engagement), and direct engagement and collaboration with specific government agencies.

4.2.1

Building on Partners' Positions and Roles in the Systems That They Work

Given that both CCJA and TC were mostly enablers of their partners' work, it was very important to build on their strengths and the existing efforts, relationships, and goals of their partners to achieve government response. This looked different in each project and each level in which they sought to elicit a government reaction. During the reform of the royalties system, TC defined a joint advocacy strategy with organizations in the Mesa Platform. They agreed the most relevant elements that should be included in the reform with regards to transparency, participation and accountability. Based on these recommendations, member organizations engaged different government agencies and legislators. These efforts were coordinated depending on the existing relationships that members had with relevant stakeholders, and the role that government agencies were to play in the system. The strategy enabled TC and its partners to get several of their recommendations included in the law proposed by the government and to ensure that many of these recommendations were not taken out during the debate and approval in congress.

Building on the needs and demands voiced by members of the indigenous movement, CCJA brought data analysis showing how resources from royalties had benefited indigenous people, and the gaps in allocation and capacity for using

¹⁴. An example is the “Mesa Permanente de Concertación con los Pueblos Indígenas” – a participatory space created in 1996 for the government and indigenous peoples to discuss and agree on any law, regulation, or administrative process that might affect indigenous rights.

these resources, to the internal indigenous debates in the FPIC process. Leaders of the indigenous movement used this evidence and deliberations to engage the government during the consultation process and demand changes in the law proposed by the government.¹⁵ After the FPIC process concluded, CCJA and indigenous leaders continued following the debates on the law in congress. They built on their relationships with indigenous representatives in congress to deploy evidence and legal advice to strengthen their demands and ensure that the final reforms met their expectations.

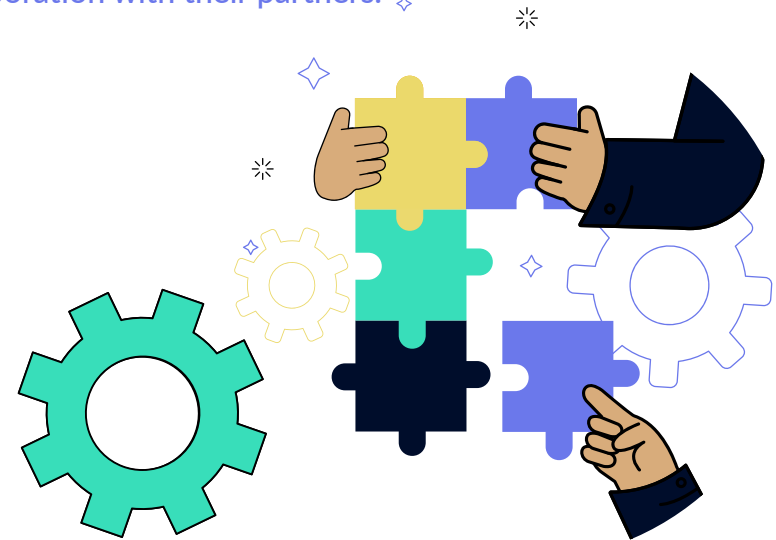
Both organizations have remained vigilant, advocating for and supporting efforts to implement the reform of the royalties system, although implementation has been slow given the COVID-19 response and recovery efforts, public protests in 2020 and 2021, and democratic challenges created by the concentration of power in the executive.¹⁶ Lessons from the efforts by TC, CCJA, and their partners to use data to inform the reform of the royalties system include:

■ EVIDENCE IS JUST AS IMPORTANT AS HOW YOU USE IT.

Both CCJA and TC were able to boost government responsiveness in the reform of the royalties system by channeling the evidence they had produced through partners in continued engagement with different advocacy targets in government and the legislative. These organizations were strategic in aligning their goals with those of their partners and then enabling these partners to improve how they presented the evidence, and how they adapted their demands during the reform process. For instance, they reviewed how the government had included their recommendations in the proposed law, and adjusted their advocacy accordingly.

■ INSTITUTIONAL REFORM IS AN ONGOING, AND NEVER-ENDING, PROCESS.

Achieving the inclusion of principles and mechanisms for transparency, participation, and accountability in the reform of the royalties system was a big win for both organizations. However, this effort is far from over. According to reviews by both organizations and their partners, there are a large number of regulations to be put in place and actions to be undertaken in order for these principles and mechanisms to operate and enable the changes they are meant to contribute to. Both projects have taken this into consideration and followed up on the implementation of the reforms in collaboration with their partners. ✧



¹⁵ It is important to note that the FPIC process for the reform of the royalties system was delayed due to the COVID-19 pandemic and required several adjustments, given the lack of FPIC regulation on how to carry out the consultation through virtual means.

¹⁶ See more on the concentration of power [here](#):

■ 4.2.2

Governments Need More Than Capacity to Act

The engagement that TC and its partners sustained with government agencies at the subnational level fostered an understanding of many of the challenges government officials face and the predominant narratives about citizen participation in oversight and decision-making. Their experiences validate the research carried out by IFC and TAI, confirming that a lack of capacity and the complexity of data reporting mechanisms both disincentivize the dissemination of data and engagement with data.

TC and its partners found that, in many cases, subnational agencies do not see the value of disseminating national-level transparency platforms, and often have no time or accurate information of their own to provide meaningful opportunities for citizen engagement. They also identified that some of the existing training and capacity building for government officials was mostly focused on compliance and had only a limited effect on their behavior.

CONCIUDADANIA: THE CHALLENGES OF DATA PRODUCTION, DISSEMINATION, AND USE

Conciudadania, in a pilot supported by TC, sought to identify the amount of resources that a municipality would receive from the reformed royalties systems by asking representatives of the national and subnational government and a regional academic. These inquiries returned three different estimates and evidenced the challenges of trying to use these estimations to prioritize projects to be funded by royalties at the subnational level. Similar to this case, other issues were

raised by subnational government representatives, such as delays in updating information on national government platforms, a lack of clarity about what data reporting systems were used to make these updates, and the interest of local citizens on issues that were not limited to the investments made with royalties resources, but rather on the results of sectoral policy implementation.

These findings influenced the approach used by TC and its partners. Step one was to understand the challenges, needs, and opportunities that subnational governments faced in increasing transparency and accountability. Step two was to generate actionable recommendations that governments could use to improve data disclosure and dissemination and to create opportunities for participation. In some cases, these recommendations have led to sustained dialogue and collaboration between governments and CSOs. In other cases, it is apparent that alongside generating and sharing actionable technical recommendations, more incentives are needed to motivate meaningful action. Some lessons from these engagements by TC and its partners include:

- **IDENTIFY NARRATIVES AND INCENTIVES THAT CAN COMPLEMENT NORMATIVE AND TECHNOCRATIC APPROACHES TO ENCOURAGE ACTION ON TRANSPARENCY AND ACCOUNTABILITY.**

Government officials do not only need to know the legal mandates they must comply with, but also understand how these mandates can help to advance their work. Even where there is political will for action, data programming needs to provide options and ideas on how transparency and

accountability can be embraced effectively in practice and why this is important.

■ COMBINE CAPACITY BUILDING AND COLLABORATION WITH GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS TO INCENTIVIZE ACTION.

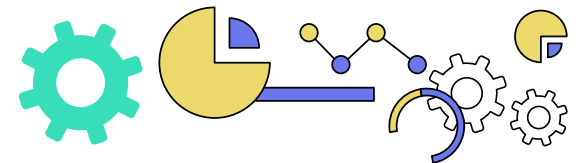
A solely compliance-based approach for programming in transparency and accountability will only get so far in encouraging action by government agencies. The experience of TC and its partners shows that complementing this approach with a deeper understanding of local incentives and narratives can provide avenues for initial and sustained action and collaboration at the local level.

■ 4.2.3

Mapping Projects and Institutional Responsibility on Royalty Use to Identify More Points of Action

The support provided by TC and CCJA enabled participants to go beyond general requests for information and concerns about the implementation of projects funded with royalties. They came to understand the complexities and challenges in the allocation and use of these resources, as well as the implications of these processes for their engagement strategies. This more nuanced understanding was also relevant for informing advocacy efforts by TC and CCJA at the national level to demand improvements in the publication of mining production and other relevant data, such as procurement, audit reports, and assessments of projects. These additional sources of information enabled participants to gain more clarity on:

- **Key actors and their responsibilities.** Identify the agencies responsible for the implementation of projects and their responsibilities in terms of producing and reporting information, which in turn allows participants to better target requests for access to information and demands for corrective actions.
- **Key processes and requirements.** Understand the processes for defining the sectoral and territorial allocation of resources from royalties, as well as the requirements that need to be met for projects to be approved and implemented. This included identifying opportunities for complementing existing subnational investments with resources from royalties to advance local development.
- **Details of projects to be funded by royalties.** Get a more detailed understanding of the projects funded with royalties by accessing procurement data related to these projects, including the number of contracts associated with the projects, contractors hired, prices paid, etc. – and then use this data to oversee implementation.
- **Mining investment assessment and approval processes.** Understand the processes for the assessment and approval of mining projects to assess the lawfulness of these licensing processes and the obligations of companies with regard to specific mining projects.
- **Resource allocations.** Estimate the total amount of resources allocated to particular indigenous communities and the different actions that these communities need to take to access them and to ensure that they are used for projects that will benefit them.



It is important to note that the reform of the royalties system, and temporary rule changes in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, affected how revenues are allocated, how data about these revenues is reported, and the opportunities that citizens have to participate. The most important implications of these changes are yet to be assessed in practice, but existing research on the issue points to minor impact given tokenistic practices for citizen participation and the disconnect between data availability and use. Several of the lessons identified by TC and CCJA are useful for informing future programming:

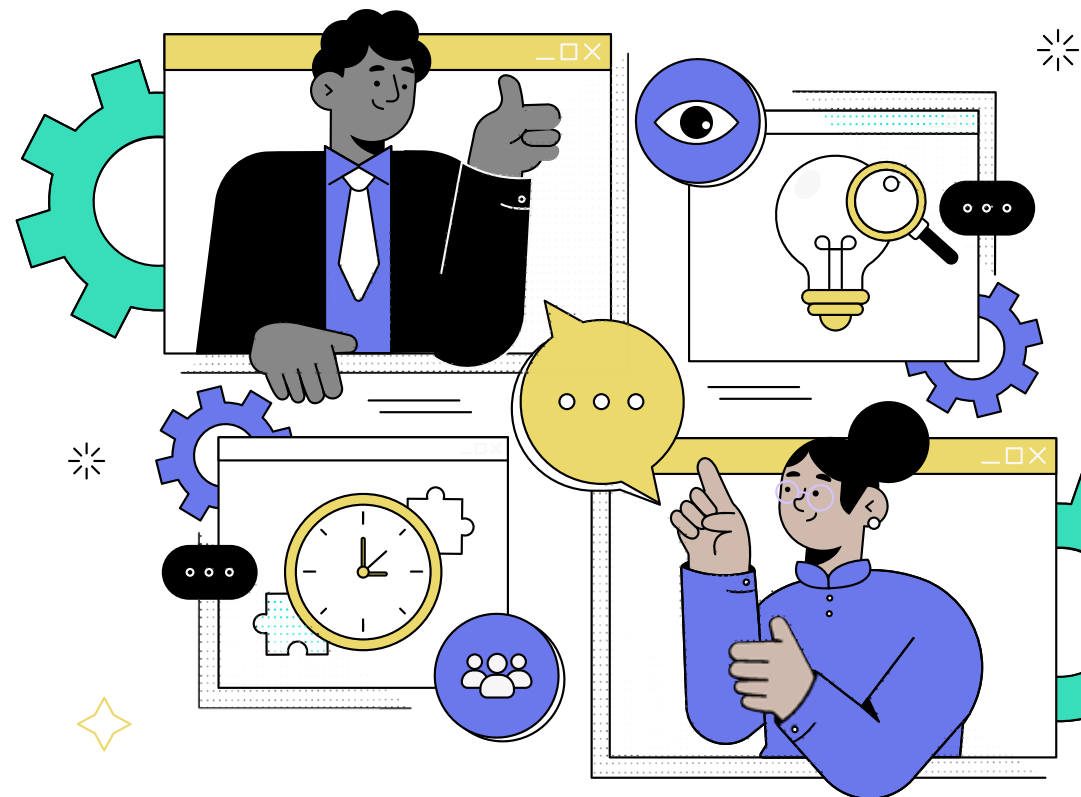
■ **PLAN FOR LEGAL AND TECHNICAL SUPPORT TO BOLSTER THE USE OF DATA FOR ACCOUNTABILITY.**

In addressing the complexities of data demand and supply, the organizational strength of CCJA and TC enabled them to complement their support to efforts to access and use data made available in data portals with legal support to request additional information and file complaints. Technical support helped them combine datasets and find additional reports that could provide a fuller picture about royalty-funded projects and expected results. This strengthened their ability to oversee projects effectively and demand corrective action as needed.

■ **USE A PROBLEM-CENTERED APPROACH TO DIVERSIFY DATA SOURCES AND ENTRY POINTS FOR ENGAGEMENT WITH GOVERNMENT AGENCIES.**

A problem-centered approach can further increase interest in data use by enabling the identification of more and better opportunities to target advocacy and elicit government action. Moving beyond generalities and a narrow set of "usual suspects" in government, and more actively matching user needs with specific data sources, allows target audiences to

more readily see connections with the issues they care about and to be more strategic about their advocacy demands and their pursuit of allies in government. In turn, this broadens their understanding of their contexts, enables them to understand the political factors that might be in play, and sharpens their strategies for mobilization and engagement.



5

IMPLICATIONS FOR DONORS SUPPORTING THE USE OF DATA FOR ACCOUNTABILITY IN COLOMBIA

Data availability about the [extractive industries](#) and how royalties are spent is relevant for those interested in local and regional development, peace building, environmental and social mobilization, and the inclusion of indigenous and Afro-Colombian communities. There are ways in which TAI members and other donors can improve their support for work around extractives in Colombia and further improve the use of data for accountability.

PROMOTE THE DIVERSIFICATION OF NARRATIVES ABOUT DATA AVAILABILITY AND USE

The government has made efforts to reform the royalties system, to revamp transparency efforts (such as [this](#) map for accessing information on investments and [this](#) citizen monitoring tool), to revise approaches for citizen engagement,

and to put in place [new mechanisms](#) to strengthen the role of the private sector in local development. If these actions are to effectively contribute to improving the allocation and use of resources, they need to approach and engage more directly with power dynamics and existing practices. Increasingly, citizens are demanding opportunities to not just oversee the implementation of projects, but to also become active participants in decision-making and local development.

Future projects should consider:

- Encouraging greater connection between existing engagement in participatory spaces and data for accountability projects; connections that go beyond the provision of data training and tools towards embedding the use of data in the activities and strategies employed by those actors.
- Incentivizing approaches that go beyond investigating individual instances of corruption towards leveraging findings to inform mid to long-term strategies for changing government narratives and practices related to the implementation of royalties reform and the contribution of royalties to subnational development.
- Investing in projects that strengthen the capacities of existing citizen mobilization initiatives to use data as a way to identify and address development challenges. Doing so offers an important avenue for generating incremental change in the relationships between citizens, government agencies, and accountability bodies.
- Increasing dialogue among donors (including TAI members, non-TAI members, and multilaterals) to improve coordination across portfolios at the national and subnational levels.

ADDRESS INCENTIVES AND DISINCENTIVES FOR THE USE OF DATA FOR ACCOUNTABILITY

Most data for accountability work in Colombia has focused on the creation of capacities to improve government reporting and citizen uptake of data for after-the-fact oversight of projects selected by government representatives. Yet, at that stage, it is harder to incentivize citizens to engage. The situation is made worse due to a lack of public trust in governments and accountability bodies, as well as the predominance of tokenistic initiatives for citizen participation in decision-making.

The predominance on the supply side of mining revenue data was evidenced in the [call for project ideas](#) launched by TAI and IFC in 2021. The call focused on the use of data to improve extractives transparency, the use of royalties for COVID-19 response and recovery, and the inclusion of women and minorities in extractives. Most of the ideas received in the first round of the call were focused on the supply and dissemination of data with little consideration of existing challenges and opportunities for actual use. This issue was addressed through a user design workshop with participants who made it to the second round; an activity that contributed to the presentation of improved ideas in the second round. This experience led TAI, IFC, and GI to reflect on the importance of framing these types of calls for proposals in ways that start with problems to be addressed, rather than on the use of data.

Looking ahead, donors should consider:

- Investing in actionable research on incentives and disincentives for the publication and use of data for accountability at the national and subnational level. This research should focus on complementing existing evidence

about data supply and demand by paying greater attention to political economy, institutional design, and the role that additional stakeholders (e.g., the legislative, judiciary, subnational government agencies, the private sector, and accountability bodies) play in the dynamics for data use.

- Facilitating peer learning about existing data use approaches. There are many approaches related to specific sectors, vulnerable groups, and peace building that could benefit from the lessons from existing efforts to use data for accountability, including improving the design and implementation of programming. This peer learning would be strengthened by focusing on the use of evidence to encourage government response, civil society strategies to advocate, and the facilitation of multi-stakeholder collaboration based on data on particular topics that hinder development and inclusion.

GENERATE INCENTIVES FOR IMPROVED USE OF MEL WITHIN AND ACROSS PROJECTS

Partners face challenges to use lessons from their work to adapt their activities systematically and to inform the evolution of their organizational strategies. These challenges can be traced to: the diversity of donors and the reporting mechanisms they use; and the focus on project-by-project reporting hindering opportunities to surface and use lessons to inform other projects or organizational strategies. There are typically limited resources for MEL in wider citizen mobilization processes. Donors could increase the value of their existing and future investments in efforts to use data for accountability by:

- Providing guidance and support to grantees related to project design and the use of MEL. These should go beyond issues about data availability, analysis, and dissemination towards issues such as:

The alignment of projects with wider organizational strategies.

The incentives for the use of outputs by leading organizations, target audiences, and other relevant stakeholders in the context, and strategies to shift those incentives.

The institutional context in which data use will happen.

The assumptions about how data can be used by target audiences to achieve their goals.

- Encouraging flexibility in programming to adapt continuously to the needs and goals of target audiences. Whether it is research, development of data tools and methodologies, capacity building, or other innovative data-based approaches, projects that aim to promote the use of data by target audiences need to set in place feedback mechanisms throughout project design and implementation. They should test assumptions about data use and evolving project implementation accordingly.
- Creating spaces for dialogue about the role of MEL in grantees programming, including more coordinated efforts for strengthening the field of organizations working on governance, development, and service delivery issues, including through the use of data. This dialogue should also include the use of MEL in wider, collaborative citizen mobilization efforts.

- Supporting grantees' use of MEL through the increased allocation of funds or on-demand external support, as well as more focused follow-up on their use of MEL to improve project implementation and organizational strategies.





ANNEXES

ANNEX 1. EVENTS ABOUT DATA USE IN THE EXTRACTIVE SECTOR IN COLOMBIA

Events

Four-part [event series](#) enabling multi-stakeholder dialogue on the reform of the royalties system

Type of Event

[Webinar Series](#)

of Participants

20 experts on extractives who attended four events

Topics

1) Civil society dialogue before the reform of the royalties system about challenges and opportunities to achieve transparency, with presentations ([Notes](#) and [Agenda](#)) by:

- [Natural Resource Governance Institute - NRGi](#)
- [Ministry of Mines and Energy](#)
- [Transparencia por Colombia](#)

2) Differential approach to guarantee ethnical vision on the reform of the royalties system, with the following presentations ([Notes](#) and [Agenda](#)):

- [Tracer and Royalties Tool by Diego Dorado](#)
- [Perspectives from Corporación Comunidad de Juristas Akubadaura](#)
- Perspectives from the Consejo Nacional por la Paz

Afrocolombiano (CONPA)

3) Access and use of information in the reform of the royalties system, with presentations ([Notes](#) and [Agenda](#)) by:

- [The University of Columbia](#) on the study: ["Politics and Data use: Snapshots from Colombia"](#)
- [Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative - EITI Colombia](#)

4) Citizen participation in the reform of the royalties system, with presentations ([Notes](#) and [Agenda](#)) by:

- Agenda Propia on [data journalism and extractive industries](#)
- Foro Nacional Colombia.

Events

3 Events facilitated by Transparency Colombia

Type of Event

[Hybrid Events](#)

of Participants

Approx. 20 people per event.

Topics

1) [Socialization of experiences and results with local partners on citizen participation and control of the general royalty system through the use of data.](#) Presentation of each of the organizations carrying out accountability exercises at the local level. ([Notes](#))

- [Corporación Civica de Caldas](#)
- [Crudo Transparente](#)
- [Transparencia por Santander](#)

- [Corporación Vigía Cívica](#)
- [Foro Nacional por Colombia](#)
- [Cordupaz](#)
- [Conciudadanía](#)
- [Unidad de Acción Vallecaucana](#)

2) [One year after the enactment of Law 2056 of 2020: Opportunities, findings, and challenges for its implementation, with interventions from:](#)

- Ministry of Mines and Energy
- Ministry of Science, Technology and Innovation
- Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative - EITI Colombia
- National Planning Department
- Civic organizations: [Conciudadanía](#), [Unidad de Acción Vallecaucana](#), and [Camara de Comercio de Santander](#)

3) [XXII Meeting of the Mesa of the Civil Society for Transparency in the Extractives Sector](#)

Moderated by the Technical Secretariat: Transparency for Colombia and the Representative before the CTN to [organize](#) and plan tasks of the subcommittees based on the participatory exercises of the meeting.

Events

Two [peer learning events](#) with organizations in Colombia and the Andean region

Type of Event

Webinar

of Participants

Approx. 20 participants in total.

Topics

1) [Environmental strategic litigation](#), presentations ([Agenda](#)) by:

- Instituto de Defensa Legal (IDL - Peru)
- Cooperación (Peru)
- Earth Rights (ERI)
- Corporación Comunidad de Juristas Akubadoura (Colombia)

2) [Risk assessment and environmental damage, presentations](#) ([Agenda](#)) by:

- Aymara León and Mario Zuñiga on the study: "[The Shadow of Oil: Report on oil spills in the Peruvian Amazon between 2000 and 2019](#)"
- Kely Alfaro consultant experts on [environmental damage and the effects on measurement studies in the extractive industry](#)

ANNEX 2. SUBNATIONAL PILOTS SUPPORTED BY TRANSPARENCIA POR COLOMBIA

Partner and Project Name	Goals	Results
<p>Foro Nacional por Colombia</p> <p>Strengthening skills for data use and public dialogue to improve the investment of royalties in education and gender issues.</p>	<p>Support oversight and citizen participation in investments for the economic empowerment of women's organizations in Meta.</p>	<p>All project members were trained on the General Royalty System (GRS) and the use of platforms. This allowed them to access information of interest on the project and promoted female involvement in the control of public resources from the GRS in the Meta department.</p>
<p>Crudo Transparente</p> <p>Strengthening the capacity of territorial actors on the use of data, and citizen participation in the peace process through the GRS (Puerto Gaitán - Meta).</p>	<p>Promote an initiative of citizen control over the investments into projects implemented with resources from the GRS in the municipality of Puerto Gaitán, Meta.</p>	<p>Produced an assessment of the use of royalties by the municipality of Puerto Gaitán, with a focus on the allocation of resources for peace.</p> <p>Improved engagement with local authorities, validating information with municipal agencies and exploring opportunities to address challenges related to the allocation and use of resources.</p>
<p>Conciudadanía</p> <p>Improve the knowledge of citizens and public servants in Buriticá on the distribution of the GRS in infrastructure (Buriticá - Antioquia).</p>	<p>Increase citizens' knowledge of royalties through data-driven strategies by means of a practical exercise of social control.</p>	<p>All project participants were trained on the use of royalties data. They carried out citizen oversight of eight projects prioritized by local stakeholders.</p> <p>A revision of the income received by the municipality against reports of mineral production helped to identify issues with the estimation of municipal income from royalties and the challenges these issues cause to project planning, and opportunities for collaboration with the authorities.</p>

Partner and Project Name	Goals	Results
<p>Unidadde Acción Vallecaucana</p> <p>Strengthening citizen participation in the GRS through open data and its contribution to education in Cali (Valle del Cauca - Cali).</p>	<p>Support the implementation of advocacy in the territory about the results of the citizen oversight of investment for GRS-financed projects financed through data-based strategies.</p>	<p>Participants were trained in the use of royalties data, decision-making spaces, and opportunities for citizen oversight through open data. The training enabled participants to understand the allocation and use of royalties, and to identify opportunities for collaboration with government agencies.</p>
<p>Cordupaz</p> <p>Capacity building for the community of Puerto Libertador to monitor infrastructure investments (Puerto Libertador - Cordoba).</p>	<p>Strengthen the productivity of the agricultural sector in the emergency situation caused by COVID-19 in the municipality of Puerto Libertador.</p>	<p>Partners from the <i>Asociación de Campesinos del Sur de Córdoba</i> (a peasant organization) and the <i>Plataforma Municipal de Juventudes</i> (Municipal Youth Platform) were trained in the use of GRS and open data platforms. These organizations were also supported as they tracked a project to support agriculture during the COVID-19 emergency and proposed improvements in the implementation of the project.</p>
<p>Cámara de Comercio de Bucaramanga</p> <p>Citizen participation, access to data, and transparency in infrastructure projects (Santander).</p>	<p>Assess the status of the application of transparency and citizen participation in the cycle of projects financed with royalty resources in the Santander department.</p>	<p>Carried out research on projects approved during 2019-2020 in the areas of science, technology, and innovation, COVID-19, peace, and regional development. Based on these findings, the organization developed recommendations for the promotion of citizen engagement and improvements in access to data.</p>
<p>Corporació Cívica de Caldas</p> <p>From land to royalties: resources to address COVID-19 in Caldas.</p>	<p>Investigate the allocation of Caldas royalty resources in 11 projects responding to the COVID-19 pandemic.</p>	<p>Oversight of 11 projects created to mitigate the consequences of COVID-19 in Caldas. Production of infographics and media pieces on the findings.</p>

Partner and Project Name	Goals	Results
<p>Corporación Vigía Cívica - Risaralda</p> <p>Analysis of projects financed with GRS resources for pandemic care in Risaralda.</p>	<p>Increasing the accountability of royalties in Colombia through data-driven strategies, specifically those used to address the COVID-19 pandemic.</p>	<p>Gaps in procurement reporting were identified and exposed in the media. Based on the findings, Vigía Cívica produced recommendations for improving access to data and citizen oversight. Since the project, the organization has collaborated with a university to improve its data capacity.</p>
<p>Corporación Colombia Joven</p> <p>Identifying corruption risks in Guachene, Villa Rica, and Puerto Tejada - Valle del Cauca.</p>	<p>Investigate mining licenses and environmental impacts in the clay industry in target areas.</p> <p>Provide training sessions for other organizations.</p>	<p>Collaboration with community councils to identify corruption risks in the approval of mining licenses and to encourage government agencies to act on findings.</p> <p>Participants were trained in access to, and the use of, information related to mining licenses and environmental impact.</p>
<p>ABC Casanare</p> <p>Yopal and San Luis de Palenque - Casanare.</p>	<p>Implement the Anti-Corruption Citizen Control Methodology in project monitoring. Request hearings and information to support citizen oversight initiatives for the efficient investment of royalty resources.</p>	<p>Participants were trained to access, use, and analyze information, and were supported as they presented complaints to government agencies.</p> <p>Production of communication pieces to raise awareness about the use of resources from royalties and create opportunities for engagement with municipal and regional government agencies.</p>

ANNEX 3. SUMMARIES OF TC'S AND CCJA'S MEL

Summary of TC [MEL data](#)

Summary of CCJA [MEL data](#)

STRENGTHENING TRANSPARENCY
AND CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT IN THE
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RESOURCE REVENUES

IN COLOMBIA



TRANSPARENCY &
ACCOUNTABILITY
INITIATIVE