What does accountability mean to Educo?

For Educo, accountability means fulfilling our responsibility to listen and respond to the opinions and needs of our stakeholders in the decisions we make and the activities we undertake, with the ultimate aim of increasing our impact and ensuring the responsible use of resources. It is a process through which we create and implement the mechanisms needed to empower our stakeholders and assume responsibility for our actions.

This process should encompass four dimensions—transparency, evaluation, stakeholder participation and feedback and complaints mechanisms—all of which are essential to achieving accountability in an effective and meaningful way.

At the same time, at Educo we regard accountability as a process:

- **Transversal:** integrated in everything we do as an organization
- **Transformative:** an opportunity to learn and improve our action
- **Continuous:** contemplated in all phases of a project or process
- **Global:** addressed throughout the organization, both in the Head Office and the program countries

Why do we want to strengthen our accountability? What purpose does it serve?

- Accountability is important for our organization because it increases our credibility and legitimacy; strengthens internal governance structures; minimizes the risk of corruption; and represents an opportunity to learn and innovate, which will improve our performance and, consequently, our impact.
- On the other hand, as an organization that takes a rights-based approach, it is our duty to be accountable, responding to the rights of our stakeholders, and, in particular, those people who are affected by our activities and our collaborators. Our actions have an impact on the lives of many people, in particular the most vulnerable; we must provide the necessary mechanisms for empowering them and being held fully accountable to them for our actions.