Challenges and Opportunities of Civil Society Engagement in Climate Finance

Iftekhar Zaman
Executive Director, TI-Bangladesh

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• TI Global Corruption Report – Climate Change

• New Multi-country initiative on capacity building for civil society engagement

• Linking with TI-Bangladesh efforts to engage people – voice & accountability tools & processes for transparency & accountability in service delivery
I. GCR is the first research-based alert on corruption and governance risks in Climate Finance

The Global Corruption Report: Climate Change

Released from Dhaka, Bangladesh
30 April, 2011
GCR - Key messages

- Climate change - the greatest risk to the planet and people’s livelihood
- Strengthening of governance mechanisms can reduce corruption risk and make climate change policy and action more effective and more successful.
- Huge financial flows through untested channels – more resources, more corruption risks
- Transparency, accountability and oversight are the key to ensuring climate finance funds are free from corruption
- Specific recommendations for stakeholders - Governments, private sector and the Civil Society
- Alerting corruption risk cannot justify reduction of commitment and flow of funds, rather to establish credible systems for transparent and accountable use
GCR - Actions for civil society

• Encourage & facilitate public participation in policy development at the local, national and international levels

• Build broader coalitions for integrity in climate governance and ensure that the interests of all stakeholders are effectively represented and translated into action

• Undertake independent oversight and monitoring in terms of governance and corruption risks on climate change issues – especially in transparent and accountable use of resources at the delivery end

more: www.transparency.org
II. Climate Finance Governance Initiative
A multi-country project 2011-13

• **Objective:** To promote accountability, transparency, and integrity in climate governance and finance policies and actions, institutions and their operations

• **Specifically:** To increase the capacities of the Project Partners and other Climate Finance Governance (CFG) stakeholders to better engage, cooperate, advocate and contribute to CFG policy development, implementation and oversight.

• **Project Partners (6):** Bangladesh, Maldives, Kenya, Dominican Republic, Mexico, Peru

• **Funded by:** Federal Environment Ministry, Germany

• **Coordinated by:** TI-Secretariat
Key project components

To advocate for improved CFG policies and practices

To develop and produce global and national M&As of CFG related institutions, processes, policies and practices.

To develop and pilot an ELTC on international CFG

Develop Strategy to use/adapt TI Tools: Integrity Pacts/Pledges, ALACs/AI-Desks, Risk Mapping

To develop and maintain global and local CGNs

Developing Strategy to use/adapt TI Tools: Integrity Pacts/Pledges, ALACs/AI-Desks, Risk Mapping
III. Consistent with Bangladesh Climate Change Strategy and Action Plan (BCCSAP) 2009

Climate Change - a huge threat against sustaining growth and progress in poverty reduction, MDG

Key pillars

• Food security, social protection & health
• Comprehensive disaster management
• Infrastructure, esp in vulnerable regions
• Research & knowledge management
• Mitigation & low carbon development
• Adaptation capacity building and institutional strengthening

Key policy emphasis

• Thrust on the poorest and most affected/vulnerable
• Top level political priority – overseen by PM
Corruption

• Key challenge against development, democracy and rule of law

• Opportunity Cost:
  – @2-3% higher GDP growth
  – Only petty corruption costs 1.45 of GDP and 8.4% of Annual National Budget

• Key institutions of democracy (NIS) rendered ineffective

• The poor are most adversely affected
Challenge:
Climate Fund -
Who may get what?
Remember how to spell “honesty”?

Sumon/Age 20

Challenge: Coalition of corruption
A computer repair agent selected for an adaptation project

Challenge:

Corruption risks in adaptation fund
- Political economy

[Image of a building with a sign that reads "Rural Health & Social Development Staff"]
**Challenge:**
Corruption risks in adaptation fund

- Weak institutions
- Enforcement deficit

**Enforcement Deficit - Flouting Effluent regulations**

TRANSARENCY INTERNATIONAL BANGLADESH
Social movement against corruption
Challenge:

Corruption risks

- Political economy
- Weak institutions
- Enforcement deficit

Enforcement deficit - Logging freestyle
Opportunities: Civil Society - Voice & Accountability

• A multi-pronged strategy to demand:
  – Political will – without fear or favour
  – Making corruption punishable
  – Strengthening the institutions

Awareness, demand, inclusion, participation

• Forums & channels for voice & accountability engaging the people, especially the youth – local/national
• Multi-stakeholders engagement - anti-corruption institutional capacity, networks and partnerships
Opportunities – Does it work?

National level

• Demand creation backed by credible research – corruption at the core of public discourse and political agenda, election manifesto
• Institutional & policy reforms
  – Anti-Corruption Commission
  – Election Commission & Electoral law reform
  – Public Service reform
  – UNCAC
  – Right to Information Act
  – NGO Governance
  – Anti-Corruption education
  – MP Code of Conduct/Conflict of Interest (proposed)
  – Whistleblower Protection Act (proposed)
  – Integrity Pact (proposed)
Opportunities – local level
Applying social accountability tools

- CRC – Citizens Report Card/Score Card
- Advice & Information Service (RTI)
- Street Theatre
- Citizens Charter
- Participatory Budget
- Budget tracking
- FtP – Face the Public
- Island of Integrity
  ► Integrity Pledges
Overarching Challenges

• Ownership, at the national & international levels, of the need to address the governance and corruption risks

• Political economy of corruption
  – Politics as investment (GCB 2010 - 80% of global respondents viewed politics as the most corrupt sector)
  – Low institutional and systemic strength - impunity
  – Civil society capacity, interest, polarization, credibility
Raising voice: Driving Change

WAKE UP PEOPLE RESIST CORRUPTION

Map Showing Committee of Concerned Citizens (CCC)

Climate Change & Corruption Leave the World’s Largest Mangrove Forest the Sundarbans in Peril
Thank you
edtib@ti-bangladesh.org
www.ti-bangladesh.org