PROMOTING TRANSPARENCY AND ACCOUNTABILITY IN CLIMATE FINANCE GOVERNANCE

WORKING FOR PREVENTATIVE AND REMEDIAL SOLUTIONS TO ENSURE THAT PUBLIC MONEY FOR CLIMATE CHANGE IS EFFECTIVE AND CORRUPTION-FREE

Transparency International’s (TI) multi-country Climate Finance Integrity Programme is dedicated to ensuring that public money for climate change actions – adaptation, mitigation and REDD+ – is spent effectively, with integrity and free from corruption and fraud. On 27th August 2013, TI will host an Asia-Pacific regional workshop in Bangkok, Thailand on “Promoting transparency and accountability in climate finance governance”.

Both TI and its partners will share key findings on challenges and opportunities for how climate finance is governed globally and nationally. Building on this knowledge, participants will discuss and develop ideas and solutions to improve climate finance policies and practices to ensure more meaningful transparency and tenable means to achieve real accountability for citizens. The workshop’s intended outcome is a set of recommendations for key national and global climate finance institutions, and for civil society more broadly. TI has conducted climate finance accountability mapping and governance assessments in six countries – Bangladesh, Dominican Republic, Kenya, Maldives, Mexico and Peru – and three corruption risks assessments on REDD+ in Indonesia, Papua New Guinea and Vietnam. Governance assessments of ten multilateral climate funds are also being produced. The results of these projects will be discussed, together with the findings of like initiatives by actors such as Forest Trends, ODI and UNDP, with a view to seeking viable means of strengthening anti-corruption in climate finance.

This event is being organised by TI Bangladesh in coordination with TI’s international secretariat and TI Thailand. Attendees will include representatives from international organisations, the public and private sectors, the media and civil society, including TI national representatives from ten countries in the region. Participation is free but with limited spaces, secured through online registration. Interested persons should have sufficient knowledge of or interest in issues of climate governance and a keenness to actively contribute to discussions.

WORKSHOP:
27th August 2013
Swissotel Nai Lert Park, 2 Wireless Rd, Bangkok
Bangkok, Thailand
WORKSHOP AGENDA:
27th August 2013, Bangkok, Thailand

8:00 WORKSHOP WELCOME / REGISTRATION AND REFRESHMENTS

9:00 OPENING SESSION

Opening Remarks and Participants Welcome: Dr. Juree Vichit-Vadakan, Secretary General, TI Thailand, Dr. Sumaiya Khair, Deputy Executive Director, Transparency International Bangladesh, Mr. Phil Matsheza, Global Policy Advisor for Anti-Corruption, UNDP

Welcome Address: Challenges and opportunities for keeping climate finance and the planet clean
Claire Martin, Climate Finance Integrity Programme, Transparency International

Facilitator: Ms. Farzana Nawaz, Journalist and Anti-Corruption Researcher, Bangladesh

Rapporteur: TI Bangladesh

9:30 PANEL DISCUSSION

CLIMATE FINANCE TRANSPARENCY:
CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES IN EFFORTS TO MAP AND ASSESS CLIMATE FINANCE FLOWS AND ACTORS

Moderator: Lisa Elges, Climate Finance Integrity Programme, Transparency International

Panellists: Sujala Pant, UNDP; M. Zakir Hossain Khan, TI Bangladesh; Haifa Naeem, TI Maldives; Martha Maulidia, GIZ (consultant)

- Is climate finance transparent? Do people have access to information about how much money is being received, budgeted, and spent?
- What are some of the key challenges for tracking and keeping climate money transparent? Are there best practices for improved transparency?
- Is there sufficient meaningful transparency around climate finance – do people really understand how public money is being spent and for what? How can this be improved? What are some innovative ways to make this happen?
- What does climate finance transparency mean for preventing corruption risks? What are some known risks which could be mitigated through better transparent means?
11:00  **TEA AND COFFEE BREAK**

11:30  **PANEL DISCUSSION**

**HOLDING CLIMATE FINANCE ACCOUNTABLE AT THE COUNTRY LEVEL: WHERE WE ARE AND WHAT NEEDS TO BE DONE**

**Moderator:** Lisa Elges, Climate Finance Integrity Programme, Transparency International

**Panellists:** Masud Ahmed, Comptroller Auditor General of Bangladesh; Jerry Bagita, Transparency International PNG; Professor Ak. Enamul Haque, Bangladesh; Ms. Gita Syahrani, UKP4 Indonesia; Ahmad Dermawan, CIFOR

- How is the accountability of climate finance organised? Is it clear within national and international schemes who is accountable to who – particularly when things go wrong and people misbehave? What are potential roles of public institutions and citizens to ensure that accountability works?

- Is public participation in climate financing decisions sufficient? What are some challenges? How can this be overcome? What are some good examples of how this works?

- What role do citizens play in monitoring climate financed projects? Is this formal or informal? Does this contribute to independent oversight? What are some challenges and opportunities?

- Are there sufficient channels in place to allow citizens to engage including redress mechanisms to issue grievances and anti-corruption hotlines? What are some good practices?

12:45  **PLENARY**

**MORNING WRAP-UP AND INTRODUCTION TO AFTERNOON SESSIONS**

**Facilitator:** Ms. Farzana Nawaz, Journalist and Anti-Corruption Researcher, Bangladesh

13:00  **LUNCH**
Building on the morning’s discussions, the afternoon session aims that participants work toward envisioning and contributing to the development of policy-levels and practical on-the-ground solutions toward better transparency and accountability around climate finance. Three working groups will be formed to discuss different approaches or tools to find solutions for better transparency and accountability.

**GROUP 1:**
**TRANSPARENCY / HOW TO ENSURE BEST TRANSPARENCY IN CLIMATE FINANCE**
Recommendation for global funds and national actors:

**GROUP 2:**
**CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT IN PROJECT MONITORING**
Opportunities and challenges for citizens to be engaged in monitoring climate finance throughout the project cycle: recommendations at the policy level and practical solutions for citizens.

**GROUP 3:**
**ANTI-CORRUPTION HOTLINES AND COMPLAINTS MECHANISMS**
Policy level and practical solutions to make this key fiduciary standard workable in climate financing arrangements

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**16:00** **AFTERNOON REFRESHMENTS**

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**16:30** **PLENARY**
**WORKSHOP WRAP-UP AND WAYS FORWARD**

This session aims to recap the main findings of the workshop and summarise and propose important ways forward. One goal will be to agree on a workshop outcome document which captures key recommendations, challenges and opportunities and suggests ways that the valuable learning and exchanges can be carried forward into concrete actions.

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**18:00** **CLOSING REMARKS**
**NETWORKING EVENT / REFRESHMENTS AND COCKTAIL**