

# Dhaka Integrity Dialogue 3

## Equity and Transparency in Green Climate Funding

Dhaka, 19 September 2018



TRANSPARENCY  
INTERNATIONAL  
BANGLADESH

*Social movement against corruption*



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## **BACKGROUND OF THE INTEGRITY DIALOGUE 3**

Created as a financial mechanism of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, the Green Climate Fund (GCF) is a global fund to address the critical climate change mitigation and adaptation needs of developing nations who are being disproportionately affected by the repercussions of the climate change. The establishment of the fund was intended to promote a paradigm shift to low-emission and climate-resilient development. Advanced economies, most of whom also fall in the most carbon-producing cohort, have formally agreed to jointly mobilize USD 100 billion per year by 2020 from a variety of sources at the Copenhagen climate change negotiations in 2009, while confirming that a major share of the funds would be channeled through the GCF.

However, uncertainty looms as the GCF has only been able to raise a mere \$10.3 billion equivalent in pledges as of May 2018 and is now in a precarious position as it is running out of money fast. On the one hand, the U.S. is most unlikely to pay the remaining \$2 billion out of its committed \$3 billion. The fund has, on the other hand, lost another \$1 billion due to the devaluation of the euro and the British pound. These two factors alone account for a total loss of roughly \$3 billion out of the \$10.3 billion that the fund has reportedly garnered so far.

The meager amount of available funds and a rather grim prospect of flow of further funds hamper the climate actions of climate change affected countries planned under the National Determined Contributions which in turn are likely to affect the sustainable development outcomes. Moreover, there is also growing concern among developing countries that rich countries are trying to unilaterally apply new eligibility criteria which will effectively block access to grants for climate vulnerable middle income countries and essentially contradict the objectives of the GCF. Furthermore, it is a matter of concern that the share of the GCF portfolio of approved projects financed by grants is only 43 percent whereas that of loans is also the same, followed by equity (11 percent), and guarantee (3 percent), deviating from the Paris Agreement that emphasized more on grant based public financing for vulnerable countries. GCF provision of 50:50 balance between mitigation and adaptation has also been undermined as only 29 percent is allocated for adaptation in vulnerable countries.

There is also growing national concern regarding the capacity of the potential National Implementation Entities (NIEs), particularly in terms of complying with the complicated and lengthy process accreditation and dealing with complex formats and templates. Notably enough, already the majority of the 76 approved projects are managed by the Multilateral Implementing Entities (MIEs). In this context, it is imperative that the developing countries join hands to enhance their fund-raising capacity and raise their voice for ensuring equity, transparency and accountability in GCF funding, particularly in keeping with the spirit of the Paris Agreement.

Transparency International Bangladesh (TIB) has been working on Climate Finance Governance (CFG) since 2011 and has mainstreamed CFG in its core work. The primary focus of TIB's CFG work includes monitoring of the state of transparency and accountability in climate change project funding and its utilization. Many of the governance challenges, as identified by TIB, have been acknowledged by the Bangladesh Government's current 7th Five Year plan and international actors as a part of TIB's advocacy for Transparency and accountability in climate finance. It has organized two international dialogues in March 2016 and September 2017, bringing together relevant stakeholders and experts from home and abroad.

As a follow up to the 2016 and 2017 initiatives, TIB organized 'Dhaka Integrity Dialogue 3: Equity and Transparency in Green Climate Funding in Dhaka on 18th September 2018.

## OBJECTIVE AND OVERVIEW

The objective of the initiative is to bring together policymakers and government officials, non-government organizations (international, national and local), experts/ academics, researchers, policy think tanks, and practitioners with grass-root experience and the national implementing entities who are currently implementing GCF, or will be possibly involved with GCF for an informed dialogue on key governance issues impinging on the prospect of flow of GCF funds to countries worst affected by climate change.

**Specific objectives of the initiative are to:**

- \* Identify prospects and challenges in ensuring equity and transparency in mobilizing and accessing the Green Climate Fund;
- \* Share knowledge and build common understanding of the necessary good governance standards in accessing and utilizing funds from the GCF by existing and potential national and international implementing entities, NGOs and the private sector;
- \* Strengthen collaboration and cross-country knowledge of experts, practitioners, policy-makers and development partners in vulnerable countries.

## INAUGURATION



The Dhaka Integrity Dialogue 3 was inaugurated with the screening of a short-video made by TIB, encouraging the masses to stand against corruption, which was followed by the inauguration speech by TIB executive director Iftekharuzzaman.

Describing the background and objective of the Dhaka Integrity Dialogue 3, Dr. Iftekharuzzaman elaborated on the GCF fund and how it was devised to address the issue of climate change mitigation and adaptation. He then went on to discuss major stumbling blocks that the GCF and thereby, vulnerable countries are facing due to irregularities and lack of transparency in the fund collec-

tion and disbursement process.

Looking forward to a fruitful discussion, Dr. Iftekharuzzaman ended by reinstating the importance of joint efforts by developing countries to enhance their fund-raising capacity and raise their voice for ensuring equity, transparency and accountability in GCF funding, particularly in keeping with the spirit of the Paris Agreement.



## **SESSION 1**

### **Transparency Accountability and Integrity in Mobilizing Green Climate Fund: Challenges and Prospects**

#### **Moderator**



**Mirza Shawkat Ali**  
Director  
(Climate Change and International Convention),  
Department of Environment,  
Government of Bangladesh

#### **Speakers**



**Ziaul Hasan ndc**  
Chairman  
(Additional Secretary)  
Bangladesh Space Research and Remote Sensing Organization (SPARRSO)  
Government of Bangladesh



**Dr. Edward Morgan**  
Research Fellow  
Griffith Climate Change Response Program  
Griffith University, Australia



**Md. Ziaul Haque**  
LDCs Coordinator  
Bangladesh Delegation and Director, Department of Environment  
Government of Bangladesh

#### **Brief overview of the session**

Reiterating climate change as a global issue, the session focused on the challenges the deficit of climate funds induce in dealing with the vulnerabilities that are ushered by climate change. There lies a significant gap between commitment and available funds. In order to reduce that, stakehold-

ers must device better mechanisms with proper planning, in order to access sufficient funds by the vulnerable countries.

There is a need for multi-sectoral collaborative efforts to design innovative intervention projects to reduce vulnerability. Ensuring transparency and accountability throughout the climate financing related process is a prerequisite to achieve sustainable development goals. Projects require comprehensive collaboration from the environment related national authority to strengthen the capacity of stakeholders in climate change mitigation and adaptation endeavors.

The speakers highlighted the fact that the Paris Agreement is legally binding, making it imperative for participating nations to comply with. Article 9

and its sub-sections clearly define the role of developed nations in making sure that the GCF flow is not interrupted and scale up finance is available for both adaptation and mitigation projects while vulnerable Least developed countries (LDCs) are supposed to be the primary beneficiaries of said funds. Furthermore, the sections suggest that developed countries must communicate indicative data on financial support to the global communi-

ty every two years, as well as provide transparent and consistent data to the receiving nations.

From the Bangladeshi perspective, the relevant authorities have successfully negotiated for a preferential treatment, should they be promoted from LDC to middle-income nation status because of its vulnerability.

With Bangladesh being one of the most adversely affected, the panelists expressed doubts about not being able to properly implement adaptation and mitigation projects. Strengthening capacity in National Implementation Entities (NIEs) in order to qualify for funds. Out of the 14

NIEs, 6 have accreditation to GCF, which is extremely difficult to acquire. Panelists reiterated the need to adopt the whole Paris “rulebook” by COP24.

The current trend, apart from grant-based funds, suggests the flow of high-concessional loan with the interest rate being roughly around 0.75%. The speakers

agreed that it is up to the relevant authorities to decide whether we should take that up. While at it, we must also take into account, the impact derived from smaller projects.

By the end of the first session, members of the audience suggested the need of differentiating between development aid and green climate funding in order to avoid confusion. The idea for a high-concessional loan for mitigation may seem justified but loans for adaptation projects may not be a good idea and that, we must focus on grants for such projects. Multiple members of the audience also proposed looking into bilateral funding, apart from GCF.

## Key findings

The distinguished speakers suggested that we integrate space technologies with the meteorological department, while stating the need for more research. They reiterated the need for substantial

data for developing and designing proper projects, effective monitoring and implementation. They called on relevant authorities to ensure more transparency, since the country lacks an efficient reporting system for funding procedures, and that, only proper monitoring of intervention projects and transparency can bring in sustainable results.

Multiple panelists suggested that the allocation of funds needs to be more balanced in order to better design and implement projects. Authorities must also look into the monitoring of climate institutions in the later stages.

The governance of international funds include looking for quality projects, and ensuring good governance of both the government and the funds allocated. The speakers suggested that governance is all about stakeholder relations, which is how interactions between individuals and organizations develop at different stages of planning, consultation and implementation. The quality of governance can be measured by structural issues like meaningful participation and productive deliberation. The government standard, principles and criteria operate at all of these levels and can be implemented and measured at each level. There is a need for assessment of the quality of governance and the maintenance of said standards.

Finally, the speakers cited three important points from the Paris Agreement Article 2 which suggest that all countries must make sure that the global average temperature increase is capped and brought down, work towards increasing the ability to adapt to adverse climate change including low carbon emission and climate-resistant development, and ensure adequate funding flow, which will address adaption needs in developing countries, based on global, national, regional and local needs.







## Recommendations

- \* The Paris Agreement Article 2 that all countries must fulfill to mobilize adequate fund flow, which will address adaption needs in developing countries, on a global, national, regional and local needs.
- \* Developing countries would be held accountable in fulfillment of the commitment that they made in Copenhagen in 2009.
- \* Equitable representation from developing countries in the GCF Board must be ensured to reap the benefits of the Paris Agreement.
- \* The need of differentiating between development aid and green climate funding in order to avoid confusion.
- \* Relevant authorities and governance bodies have to establish an efficient reporting system for funding procedures to ensure more transparency in climate fund management in Bangladesh.
- \* Balance allocation of funds accordingly to better design and implement projects.
- \* The need for more research on climate vulnerability since data is needed for developing and designing projects, effective implementation and monitoring.
- \* Developed countries must communicate indicative information on predictable financial support to the global community every two years as well as provide transparent and consistent data to the receiving nations.
- \* Establish a comprehensive monitoring mechanism for climate institutions at all levels.
- \* GCF Authorities must also look into the monitoring of climate institutions in the later stages.
- \* Ensure assessment of the quality of governance and the maintenance of the government standard, principles and criteria.

Quality of governance standard, principles and criteria operate at all of these levels and can be implemented and measured at each level.



## SESSION 2

### Access to Green Climate Fund by Vulnerable Countries: Prospects and Challenges

**Moderator**

**M. Raquibul Amin**  
Country Representative  
IUCN Bangladesh



**Speakers**



**Abraham Kaamino Sumalinog**  
Climate Change Integrity  
Program Coordinator,  
TI- Korea



**Md. Tazkin Ahmed**  
Honorable Mayor  
Satkhira Municipality



**S.M. Mehedi Ahsan**  
Urban Climate Resilience Specialist  
KFW Bangladesh



**M. Zakir Hossain Khan**  
Senior Program Manager  
Climate Finance Governance Unit  
TI-Bangladesh

### Brief overview of the session

The geographical location of Satkhira makes it significantly vulnerable to the adverse effects of climate change with greater Satkhira and Bhola being the biggest sufferers of cyclones like Sidr and Aila. The mayor of Satkhira municipality informed that the municipality currently has around 200,000 people with another 50,000 having migrated to the town from the most vulnerable areas and that, the municipality is yet to ensure basic necessities, let alone focus on projects for adaptation and mitigation.

The speakers blamed unnecessary bureaucracy and the lack of interest of government officials tend to slow down of the process of implementation. Furthermore, the honorable mayor alleged that there is corruption across all levels of the administration as well as private parties and stakeholders of projects who too, seem to warrant a cut or commission from the funding. Since there have been allegations of corruption in projects, a unique cell can be formed within the Anti-Corruption Commission (ACC) which will oversee such matters.

Panelists also addressed the planning aspect of engaging with climate funds, including GCF to be challenge. The process must include stakeholders at multiple levels – not only the inclusion of government officials but members from the local communities that are directly affected. The projects proposed must fit into the national framework, emphasizing the need for coordination,





which will lead to faster and more effective implementation.

In order for NDAs to be effective, the speakers suggested that there is a need for good communication between relevant parties, the understanding of budget requirements, engagement with other actors in the process, and drawing parallels to other climate finance and development projects that may not fall under the GCF funding scope.

For the implementation stage, the speakers agreed that authorities must focus on project selection, the engagement with stakeholders, and actively identifying capacity gaps of implementing entities while facilitating implementation to ensure sustainability of projects. Furthermore, civil society organizations need to make sure that in their engagement with GCF, they are not in support of other corporations that work with fossil fuels. There should be an aim to achieve a balance between adaptation and mitigation in allocating funding to developing countries.

## Key findings

The distinguished members of the panel reiterated the need to ensure transparency in securing green climate funds which may be possible through the implementation of policies that are parallel to global standards. In order to ensure transparency and accountability, it is suggested that they involve members of the civil society to monitor the process of implementation.

The speakers also touched upon the need to monitor the implementation of projects at the root-level, along with ensuring participation from the affected community and experts.

Panelists suggested that Bangladesh needs to get more accreditation like NIEs to ensure the chances of securing GCF funds but it is imperative that the country develops articulated funding proposals. To do so, one of the speakers recommended that the government can employ a dedicated pool of fund and resources to develop new projects. In terms of GCF, it is a must for the body to ensure long-term financial sustainability, while achieving credibility among the countries, especially the developing ones. According to the speakers, GCF also needs to improve their capacity to make a sustainable impact and a better disbursement of the funds.

In the light of the situation, the speakers suggested that equitable representation from developing countries in the GCF Board must be ensured to fully reap the benefits of the Paris Agreement. Furthermore, the GCF needs to revise their investment priorities in reflection of prioritized adaptation actions aligning with NDCs, NAP and SDG targets. In addressing the growing state of vulnerability, there is a need of pro-activeness of the GCF Board to enhance access to GCF through establishing country-specific strategies with dedicated funds for the loss and damages especially for the welfare and rehabilitation of climate refugees.



## Recommendations

- \* The GCF Board needs to establish country-specific strategies with dedicated funds for the loss and damages especially for the welfare and rehabilitation of climate refugees
- \* It is a must for the body to ensure a long term financial sustainability, while achieving credibility among the countries, especially the developing ones.
- \* Bangladesh needs to get more accreditation like NIEs to ensure the chances of securing GCF funds.
- \* Employ a dedicated pool of resources and necessary funds to develop articulated proposals and new projects.
- \* Revise the investment priorities in reflection of prioritized adaptation actions aligning with NDCs, NAP and SDG targets.
- \* Macro & micro level analysis for prioritization, vulnerability assessment, effectiveness and sustainability of projects and implementation outcomes especially infrastructure, afforestation projects.
- \* Involve more members of the civil society to monitor the process and implementation of projects to ensure transparency and accountability.
- \* The speakers reiterated the need to monitor the implementation of projects at the root-level, along with ensuring participation from the community and experts.
- \* Since there have been allegations of corruption in projects, a dedicated cell can be formed within the Anti-Corruption Commission (ACC) which will oversee such matters.
- \* Supporting NDA & potential/NIEs to develop their capacity and exchange of knowledge.
- \* GCF has to revise their investment priorities in reflection of prioritized adaption actions aligning with NDCs, NAP and SDG targets.

In addressing the growing vulnerability, there is a need of pro-activeness of the GCF Board to enhance access to GCF through establishing country specific strategy with dedicated funds for the loss and damages especially e.g. welfare and rehabilitation of climate induced displaced people.



## SESSION 3

### Disbursement, Monitoring and Utilization of Green Climate Funds and Projects: Prospects and Challenges

#### Moderator

#### Professor

**Dr. Sumaiya Khair**

Adviser,  
Executive Management  
TI-Bangladesh

#### Speakers



### Brief overview of the session

There lies a stark disparity in the disbursement of the GCF fund, which was under the spotlight during the session. Reiterating the complicity of the funding procedure, speakers in the session, including Mohammad Iftekher Hossain, the Deputy Commissioner of Satkhira District, discussed how the scarcity in funds is proving to be a stumbling block in fighting the adverse impacts of the climate change in Bangladesh. They also questioned the lack of transparency in the process of availing funds from GCF. The bureaucratic structure of the funding entity also puts forward an array of issues for countries like Bangladesh.



#### **Mohammad Iftekher Hossain**

Deputy Commissioner  
Satkhira District



#### **Abraham Kaamino Sumalinog**

Climate Change Integrity  
Program Coordinator  
TI-Korea



#### **M. Mosleh Uddin**

Head  
Green Climate Fund (GCF)  
IDCOL



#### **Binayak Das**

Program Coordinator  
Water Integrity Network



#### **Md. Mahfuzul Haque**

Program Manager  
Climate Finance Integrity  
Program  
TI-Bangladesh

The speakers asserted that on the national front, there's a huge gap in capacity of the NIEs, which needs to be urgently met in order to effectively avail the funds. In terms of monitoring, there is a big challenge as there is no operational monitoring system for the current projects which are being implemented in Bangladesh under the GCF funds. Speakers also suggested that TIB can effectively play the role of a watchdog.

Prospects and challenges in the disbursement and monitoring of GCF funds were also discussed during the session. After elaborately describing the post-approval process of a funding proposal, Abraham Kaamino Sumalinog, Climate Change Integrity Program Coordinator of TI-Korea, addressed the challenges in portfolio management. The key challenges in this regard, according to the speaker, include but is not limited to: 1) Funding proposals (FPs) with no final AMA with the GCF, 2) Lack of terms sheets and related AE fees, 3) Large number of conditions, 4) Accredited entities without AMAs.

There are many approved FPs are with entities which have not finalized their AMA with the GCF, which is another key issue as it means that the drafting of the related FAAs cannot begin without finalizing the AMA. Other issues include the time lapse between the Board's approval and the ac-





tual disbursement along with practical problems with respect to the implementation of approved FPs. Proposed budgets may also change owing to changes in prices and/or exchange rates, inception reports maybe be required to ensure that the project as originally proposed is still viable notwithstanding the delay and co-financing commitments may be at risk. In terms of monitoring and accountability of the funded projects, the speaker elaborated on the monitoring and accountability framework and components, with particular focus on a risk-based monitoring approach.

In the case of Bangladesh, climate change has already had severe effects on the livelihood of many. Coastal communities in the country are already facing poverty challenges as they are having to adjust their livelihoods and employ alternatives. Eventually, climate change adaptation has become an issue of human rights and justice in view of the daunting costs which the impacts of climate change pose, especially considering the cost for countries like Bangladesh. How the GCF is disbursed, managed and governed at international level will determine whether it will truly meet the needs of vulnerable countries. This is why ensuring transparency and accountability throughout the process is key to achieve the goals of the funds. However, challenges persist on different levels in ensuring transparency, especially in terms of monitoring.

As the effects of climate change are first felt through water – through droughts, floods or storms - it is imperative to prioritize water in climate financing. The worst impacts of climate change are in fact not inevitable. However, improving equitable access to safe, sustainable and climate resilient water sources will help protect the most vulnerable children before, during and after climate disasters.

There are certain risk factors in climate financing that the speakers identified during the session, including new and relatively untested mechanisms and financial markets, weak institutions and governance frameworks, urgency to disburse big amounts of cash quickly, increase in number and diversity of funding sources, varied and complex delivery mechanisms, fragmented climate finance architecture, overlap between development and climate change measures and absence of international standards and tracking guidelines.

As a wider group of stakeholders are involved in mitigating the vulnerabilities related to water, including stakeholders beyond the water sector, makes the processes more complex, speakers asserted adding that new channels of funding for water adaptation are a must. Besides, due to the uncertainties climate change, there opens a further challenge as it could be misused to exaggerate impact of climate change or to exaggerate the cost of adaptation. Adaptation plans may propose solutions to problems that are not due to climate change (but rather environmental mismanagement). Moreover, coordination bodies or lead ministries often lack the required funding, capacity or authority. This consolidates the lack of cross-sectoral collaboration and lack of monitoring, which was also identified as a key challenge during the session, speakers said during the session.





## Key findings

Finalizing AMA with the utmost urgency has been identified as a key factor in availing the GCF. Speakers said that strengthening of governance mechanisms can reduce integrity risks and make water and climate change policy and action more effective, while adopting a holistic, risk-based conceptual approach to highlight the centrality of water in climate adaptation for agriculture, health, energy and the environment is also much needed. Public participation in policy development at the local, national and international levels has been reiterated as a key to ensure transparency and accountability in the session. Besides, it also helps ensuring successful adaptation processes, speakers said.

Transparency in reporting climate finance is crucial for building and maintaining trust among nations, which is why the importance of undertaking independent oversight and monitoring in terms of governance—especially in transparent and accountable use of resources has been reiterated throughout the session.

Developing a Geographical Information System based central Information Management System (e.g. climate finance watch) can provide a robust/remote/verifiable monitoring and evaluation system, speakers suggested. Furthermore, they called for data openness as online available data can provide feeding mechanism from local level. Overseeing the infrastructure, afforestation projects and implementation outcomes as well as ensuring disclosure of essential information have been deemed to be effective to reap the best outcome. Remote monitoring, evaluation and auditing mechanisms for the GCF funded projects need to be established, speakers suggested, while calling for more macro and micro level analysis for prioritization, vulnerability assessment, effectiveness and sustainability of projects.

## Recommendations

- \* Adopt budgetary reform and polycentric planning, both top-down and bottom-up to include the voices of local communities and marginalized groups.
- \* Develop a Geographical Information System based central Information Management System (e.g. climate finance watch) to ensure a robust, remote and verifiable monitoring and evaluation system.
- \* Conduct more macro and micro level analysis for prioritization, vulnerability assessment, effectiveness and sustainability of projects.
- \* Transparency, accountability and oversight are the key to ensuring successful adaptation processes.
- \* Building capacity of CSOs, journalists and influential citizens to track projects through orientation.
- \* Ensure data openness (online version can provide feeding mechanism from local level), disclosure of information and promoting monitoring, evaluation and auditing.
- \* Encourage and facilitate public participation in policy development at the local, national and international levels.
- \* Provide a robust/remote/verifiable monitoring and evaluation system.

Form a multi-stakeholder forum under NDA (private, public, CSOs, NGOs, project beneficiaries) to establish coordination among relevant actors.

## CLOSING REMARKS



**Moderator**  
**Dr. Iftekharuzzaman**  
Executive Director  
TI-Bangladesh



**Presentation of Key Highlights**  
**Professor Sumaiya Khair**  
Adviser, Executive Management  
TI-Bangladesh



**Guest of Honor**  
**Mohammad Iqbal Hossain**  
Deputy Comptroller and Auditor General of  
Bangladesh (Senior)  
Office of the Comptroller and  
Auditor General of Bangladesh



**Chief Guest**  
**Barrister Anisul Islam Mahmud MP**  
Honorable Minister  
Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change,  
Government of Bangladesh

### Brief overview of the session

In the closing session, experts from different fields of climate change mitigation and adaptation stressed on the need to ensure transparency and equity in securing green climate funds (GCF), saying that it's possible through implementation of policies maintaining global standards. The speak-

ers reiterated the need to monitor the implementation of projects at the root-level, along with ensuring participation from the community and experts along with involving members of the civil society to monitor the implementation process.

Speakers and participants recommended improving the capacity of GCF to make a sustainable impact and better disbursement of the funds and called to ensure equitable representation from de-



veloping countries in the GCF Board to reap the benefits of the Paris Agreement.

The chief guest of the concluding session, Environment Forest and Climate Change Minister, Barrister Anisul Islam Mahmud, said that the government has undertaken the climate issue with high importance. He said that besides forming its own climate fund in parallel to GCF, it has been spending a considerable part of its national budget every year in climate adaptation and recently, climate adaptation was significantly included in the newly adopted Delta Plan 2100.

TIB Executive Director Dr. Iftekharuzzaman emphasized on the need of exerting pressure upon

GCF to make access procedures user-friendly and practical, and develop a robust environmental and social safeguard policy and ensure wide dissemination among stakeholders. He urged for collective efforts to enhance technical capacity of the affected countries, especially those in South Asia in writing proposals for the GCF and effective implementation of the approved projects.

Recognising that Bangladesh is one of the worst sufferers of climate vulnerabilities, the speakers suggested to integrate space technologies with the meteorological department, while stating the need for more research as data is needed for developing and designing projects, effective monitoring and implementation.



## **Transparency Accountability and Integrity in Green Climate Fund (GCF): Key Recommendations**

### **Transparency Accountability and Integrity in Mobilizing GCF**

- \* The Paris Agreement Article 2 that all countries must fulfill to mobilize adequate fund flow, which will address adaption needs in developing countries, on a global, national, regional and local needs.
- \* Developing countries would be held accountable in fulfillment of the commitment that they made in Copenhagen in 2009.
- \* Equitable representation from developing countries in the GCF Board must be ensured to reap the benefits of the Paris Agreement.
- \* The need of differentiating between development aid and green climate funding in order to avoid confusion.
- \* Relevant authorities and governance bodies have to establish an efficient reporting system for funding procedures to ensure more transparency in climate fund management in Bangladesh.
- \* Balance allocation of funds accordingly to better design and implement projects.
- \* The need for more research on climate vulnerability since data is needed for developing and designing projects, effective implementation and monitoring.
- \* Developed countries must communicate indicative information on predictable financial support to the global community every two years as well as provide transparent and consistent data to the receiving nations.

\* Establish a comprehensive monitoring mechanism for climate institutions at all levels.

\* GCF Authorities must also look into the monitoring of climate institutions in the later stages.

\* Ensure assessment of the quality of governance and the maintenance of the government standard, principles and criteria.

\* Quality of governance standard, principles and criteria operate at all of these levels and can be implemented and measured at each level.

### **Access to Green Climate Fund by Vulnerable Countries**

- \* The GCF Board needs to establish country-specific strategies with dedicated funds for the loss and damages especially for the welfare and rehabilitation of climate refugees
- \* It is a must for the body to ensure a long term financial sustainability, while achieving credibility among the countries, especially the developing ones.
- \* Bangladesh needs to get more accreditation like NIEs to ensure the chances of securing GCF funds.
- \* Employ a dedicated pool of resources and necessary funds to develop articulated proposals and new projects.
- \* Revise the investment priorities in reflection of prioritized adaptation actions aligning with NDCs, NAP and SDG targets.
- \* Macro & micro level analysis for prioritization, vulnerability assessment,

effectiveness and sustainability of projects and implementation outcomes especially infrastructure, afforestation projects.

- \* Involve more members of the civil society to monitor the process and implementation of projects to ensure transparency and accountability.
- \* The speakers reiterated the need to monitor the implementation of projects at the root-level, along with ensuring participation from the community and experts.
- \* Since there have been allegations of corruption in projects, a dedicated cell can be formed within the Anti-Corruption Commission (ACC) which will oversee such matters.
- \* Supporting NDA & potential/NIEs to develop their capacity and exchange of knowledge.
- \* GCF has to revise their investment priorities in reflection of prioritized adaption actions aligning with NDCs, NAP and SDG targets.
- \* In addressing the growing vulnerability, there is a need of pro-activeness of the GCF Board to enhance access to GCF through establishing country specific strategy with dedicated funds for the loss and damages especially e.g. welfare and rehabilitation of climate induced displaced people.

### **Disbursement, Monitoring and Utilization of Green Climate Funds and Projects**

- \* Adopt budgetary reform and polycentric planning, both top-down and bottom-up to

include the voices of local communities and marginalized groups.

- \* Develop a Geographical Information System based central Information Management
- \* System (e.g. climate finance watch) to ensure a robust, remote and verifiable monitoring and evaluation system.
- \* Conduct more macro and micro level analysis for prioritization, vulnerability assessment, effectiveness and sustainability of projects.
- \* Transparency, accountability and oversight are the key to ensuring successful adaptation processes.
- \* Building capacity of CSOs, journalists and influential citizens to track projects through orientation.
- \* Ensure data openness (online version can provide feeding mechanism from local level), disclosure of information and promoting monitoring, evaluation and auditing.
- \* Encourage and facilitate public participation in policy development at the local, national and international levels.
- \* Provide a robust/remote/verifiable monitoring and evaluation system.
- \* Form a multi-stakeholder forum under NDA (private, public, CSOs, NGOs, project beneficiaries) to establish coordination among relevant actors.



## CONCLUSION

Owing to the dire ramifications of climate change on LDCs, including Bangladesh, sustained dialogue and engagement amongst concerned stakeholders in and outside governments are crucial to addressing these issues and finding realistic and long-term solutions.

TIB has long been advocating for integrity in climate finance and as a part of their advocacy, organized the three Dhaka-Integrity Dialogue events since 2016, covering an array of issues related to climate financing with the core objective to identify the prospect, challenges, and potential scope, ways, and means of regional efforts in climate finance and governance in Bangladesh, South Asia and beyond to meet SDG13 and the Paris Agreement in the context of good governance in climate finance.

The Paris Agreement has particularly emphasized on the importance of support for and international cooperation on adaptation efforts as well as the needs of developing countries, especially those that are particularly vulnerable to the adverse effects of climate change. Almost all of the dialogues have concluded reiterating the same notes.



## PROGRAMME SCHEDULE

08:30-09:00	Participant registration		
Time	Theme	Resource Person	Issue of Discussion
09:00-09:30	Opening and Welcome Speech	Dr. Iftekhar Zaman Executive Director TI-Bangladesh	Overall objectives of the Integrity Dialogue and expected outcomes
09:30-11:00	Plenary Session-1: Transparency Accountability and Integrity in Mobilizing Green Climate Fund: Challenges and Prospects	<p>Moderator Mirza Shawkat Ali Director (Climate Change &amp; International Convention), Department of Environment Govt. of Bangladesh</p> <p>Speakers Ziaul Hasan ndc Chairman (Additional Secretary) Bangladesh Space Research and Remote Sensing Organization (SPARRSO), Govt. of Bangladesh</p> <p>Dr. Edward Morgan Research Fellow, Griffith Climate Change Response Program, Griffith University, Australia</p> <p>Md. Ziaul Haque LDCs Coordinator Bangladesh Delegation &amp; Director, Department of Environment Govt. of Bangladesh</p>	<p>Meeting the commitment of Paris Agreement in mobilizing climate funds to GCF by developed</p> <p>Predictability of future flow of funds to GCF</p> <p>Transparency and accountability of fund providers</p> <p>GCF modalities, procedures and guidelines</p> <p>Challenges and opportunities to ensure equity in decision making process in GCF Board</p>
11:00-11:30	Tea/Coffee		
11:30-13:00	Plenary session-2: Access to Green Climate Fund by Vulnerable Countries:	<p>Moderator M. Raquibul Amin Country representative, IUCN Bangladesh</p>	<p>Prospects and challenges in accessing GCF by developing countries</p> <p>Accreditation of NIE and time bound</p>

	Prospects and Challenges	<p>Speakers</p> <p>Abraham Kaamino Sumalinog Climate Change Integrity Program Coordinator, TI-Korea</p> <p>Md. Tazkin Ahmed Honorable Mayor Satkhira Municipality</p> <p>S. M. Mehedi Ahsan Urban Climate Resilience Specialist KFW Bangladesh</p> <p>M. Zakir Hossain Khan Senior Program Manager Climate Finance Governance Unit TI-Bangladesh</p>	<p>decision making process</p> <p>Priorities in Direct and Indirect Access</p> <p>Capacity of NIEs</p> <p>Country ownership and MIE's</p> <p>Accountability</p> <p>Role of NDA in expediting access to GCF</p> <p>Meaningful participation in prioritizing the project/programs</p>
13:00-14:00	Lunch		
14:00-15:30	Plenary session-3 :Disbursement, Monitoring and Utilization of Green Climate Funds and Projects: Prospects and Challenges	<p>Moderator</p> <p>Professor Sumaiya Khair PhD Adviser Executive Management TI-Bangladesh</p> <p>Speakers</p> <p>Mohammad Iftekhar Hossain Deputy Commissioner Satkhira District</p> <p>Abraham Kaamino Sumalinog Climate Change Integrity Program Coordinator, TI-Korea</p> <p>M. Mosleh Uddin CIMA Adv. Dip. MA (UK) Head, Green Climate Fund (GCF) Unit, IDCOL</p> <p>Binayak Das Program Coordinator Water Integrity Network</p>	<p>Grant based fund allocation</p> <p>Transparency and accountability in disbursement of approved funds</p> <p>Stakeholders engagement to monitor GCF projects</p> <p>Auditing, reporting and disclosure of project information</p> <p>Complaint and Grievance Redress Mechanism</p> <p>Community-led monitoring utilization/ implementation of GCF</p>



		Md. Mahfuzul Haque Program Manager, Climate Finance Integrity Program, TI- Bangladesh	
15:30- 16:00	Tea/Coffee		
16:00- 17:00	Closing session	<p>Moderator Dr. Iftekhar Zaman Executive Director TI-Bangladesh</p> <p>Presentation of Key Highlights Professor Sumaiya Khair Adviser Executive Management TI-Bangladesh</p> <p>Speech of Guest of Honor Mohammed Iqbal Hossain Deputy Comptroller and Auditor General of Bangladesh (Senior) Office of the Comptroller and Auditor General of Bangladesh</p> <p>Speech of Chief guest Barrister Anisul Islam Mahmud MP Hon'ble Minister Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Govt. of Bangladesh</p>	

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