

Ahead of COP 24 conference
TIB calls for visible progress and transparency in Climate Fund

TI Bangladesh demands for visible progress and transparency in pledged Climate Fund ahead of Conference of the Parties of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change- COP 24 to be held in Poland next month. Regarding definition of climate finance, the graft watchdog stressed to include ‘Polluters Pay (Compensation) Principle’ that recognizes only public grants instead of loans and ensuring a legally binding “Accountability Framework” for Developed and Developing countries to ensure the accountability and integrity of all stakeholders. In a press conference organized on 22 November 2018 at its head office, TI Bangladesh specifically placed 8 points demands to consider at the conference. TIB also called upon the government to raise its voice along with least developed countries (LDC) to create a separate special fund for climate related loss and damage financing in this year’s COP24.



Speaking at the press conference, TI Bangladesh Executive Director Dr. Iftekharuzzaman said, “It is expected that an implementation framework of Paris Agreement will be accepted at the COP 24 conference including the

climate transparency framework that will ensure pledged climate fund, equity and transparency in management of climate fund according to the global need.” Dr. Zaman also said, “The Paris Agreement has no legal binding, and has created immense uncertainty for vulnerable developing countries to secure the required financing, especially for adaptation.”

Nevertheless, Bangladesh including seven other countries were provided with only 7% of the total adaptation funds from the Green Climate Fund (GCF) and other international climate funds. Moreover, the transparency framework will ensure the procedure to mobilize required funds following the polluters-pay-principle, the financing as government grants “new” and “additional” development assistance pledge. Besides, Bangladesh should emphasize for collective initiatives along with other affected countries to ensure the rights of GCF fund as highly affected country.

Praising many positive initiatives by the government of Bangladesh in ensuring good governance in the climate finance along with allocation for climate change mitigation from national budget, Dr. Zaman urged for the continuation of that along with a time bound work-plan to ensure proper utilization and, transparency and accountability in implementation of the budget.”

Dr. Zaman also said, “despite IDCOL and PKSIF as the national implementing organization got the accreditation to collect funds directly from GCF, they failed to ensure the financial, environmental and governance standards by any government institution. Hence to improve the situation, it is needed to consider the local risk while approving project and allotting fund with people’s participation in utilization of fund, access to information, accountability and integrity along with unbiased monitoring in implementing the projects.”

Dr. Zaman also shed light on capacity building of the negotiators as they represent the country at the international forums. Dr. Zaman said, “Government and nongovernment organizations should play a complementary role instead of considering each other as competitors. Besides, the government should take more initiatives to create skilled workforce to achieve the climate related sustainable development goal.”

TIB’s other noteworthy recommendations were: Bangladesh, along with other less developed countries, should strongly demand the finalization of the roadmap to implement the Paris Agreement and mobilize the required resources (climate funds, technology and technical assistance) from the developed countries; a concrete, time-bound roadmap should be formulated and implemented to mobilize the fund by developed countries with due consideration of the priority of adaptation and needs for meaningful adaptation in developing countries; a collective demand should be placed through climate diplomacy by the affected least developed countries to mobilize the adaptation fund on priority basis and should have negotiation skills enough to achieve; the LDCs should be vocal in creating a separate dedicated fund to address the ‘loss and damage’ and ensuring speedy disbursement in cases of urgent adaptation needs; dedicated financing from both GCF and Adaptation Funds should be ensured to rehabilitate, ensure welfare, and the economic prosperity of climate induced migrants.

Also, the Board of Green Climate Fund (GCF) should be reformed to form an equitable entity, with representatives from both developed and developing countries; and the GCF Board should give priority in mobilizing grant based financing for climate adaptation in the affected countries.

Since 2011, TIB has been working to ensure the grant-based climate financing and ensuring transparency and integrity in the utilization of climate finance from both national and international funds. As part of the continuous effort on climate finance governance, TIB provides evidence-based specific recommendations for the relevant stakeholders and is working with different Government and Non-Government Organizations e.g. As a result, apart from notable progress in ensuring climate finance governance, TIB's climate project tracking method and other applied social audit tools are now being replicated in Bangladesh, Kenya, Rwanda, Maldives, and Mexico.

CCCs initiatives ahead of COP-24

Calls for integrity, transparency and accountability framework in climate finance



Committees of Concerned Citizens (CCCs) across the country urged to ensure integrity, transparency and accountability framework in climate finance governance. Ahead of COP 24, a series of advocacy initiatives with a set of demands were taken by different CCCs involving grassroots people especially who are affected by climate change

Thousands of participants collectively raised voice demanding the guarantee of equality, integrity, transparency, accountability and citizen's participation in climate change grant fund, it's accessibility, use and supervision. Participants in various innovative events like human chain, rally and

called upon the developed industrial countries liable for emission of greenhouse gas to disburse funds for compensation as pledged so these could be used for technologies and innovations for adaptation. Reiterating the importance of ensuring the highest level of integrity, transparency, accountability and participation in the management, disbursement and use of climate funds, CCCs called upon the stakeholders to work together to facilitate faster and easier access of potential national implementing agencies of countries like Bangladesh to such funds as Green Climate Fund (GCF).

CCCs of different parts of the country disseminated messages through leaflets, placards, banners which helped creating awareness among mass people about CFG issues including climate change, its causes & effects. Members of CCC, Swajan, YES, YES Friends groups, students, journalists and representatives of civil society, NGOs and local peoples were also present in these events.

Quarterly meeting of TIB Individual Members held



TIB Individual Members Day was held on 29 November 2018 at TIB Meghomala Conference Room with the participation of 31 TIB members. The meeting was presided over by Professor Dr. A. K. M. Fazlul Hoque, Representative of TIB Members to TIB's General Assembly and moderated by Dr. Iftekharuzzaman, Executive Director, TIB.

Dr. Iftekharuzzaman presented TIB's activity report from May to November 2018. Members discussed about TIB's working opportunities in different

sectors as well as their role and scope of contribution in the anti-corruption social movement.

Meeting with hospital authority in Kushtia
Strengthened Monitoring to restrict undue payment and irregularities

Authority of the 250 bed General Hospital, Kushtia committed to strengthen monitoring for restricting undue payment and irregularities of hospital's services. Superintendent of the hospital Dr. Md. Abu Hasanuzzaman made the commitment in an opinion-sharing meeting with the Committee of Concerned Citizens (CCC), Kushtia held on 29 November 2018 while delivering his speech as Chief Guest.

CCC, Kushtia organized this meeting to share the result of a Quick Survey on the services of the hospital carried out by TIB.



According to the survey report, quality of the hospital services was found improved in some cases, however service recipients continue to face harassment by a part of the staffs, nurses, brothers, ward boys and volunteers. Many of service seekers were found getting treatment illegally by paying undue payment.

Dr. Hasanuzzaman said, counselling activity has already been started to conduct behavioral change of nurses, brothers and ward boys with ensuring Divisional punishment who charged undue payment. They will be suspended in future if found guilty in probe. He said that recently ACC drove an operation to prohibit the Medical Representatives and persons who are involved with undue payment. Steps have been taken according to the guideline of health department. He also added that if any nurse or other staffs take any undue money, they will face hard punishment. Dr. Hasanuzzaman thanked TIB for conducting such type of survey and asked to conduct it bi-monthly.

Assistant Director of the hospital Dr. Swapon Kumar Kundu mentioned that for increasing the quality of services and strengthen the monitoring system, hospital authority requires assistance from development activists. President of the CCC, Kushtia presided over the meeting while Area Manager moderated the sessions. Doctors, Nurses, other staff members of the hospital and members of CCC, SWAJON, YES and YES Friends were attended the meeting.

Campaign on ALAC Services for increased awareness

Campaign on Advocacy and Legal Advice Center (ALAC) services has been carried out at the court premises of Chief Judicial Magistrate, Bhabkhali Bazar and Basabari Colony of Mymensingha city on 26, 27 and 28 November 2018 respectively. Citizens became aware and informed through that ALAC is providing free legal advices to the victims of corruption and witness for necessary measures of their bitter experience.



ALAC, Mymensingh drove campaign on its services in the court premises based on a suggestion received from the Judges of Metropolitan Magistrate Court. The campaign was inaugurated at 10 am on 26 November 2018 in presence of Senior Judicial Magistrate Mr. Hafiz Al Ashad and Convener of ALAC Sub-committee of CCC, Mymensingh Sadar AH Habib Khan. Other member of the Advocate panel of the ALAC were present in the campaign.

In the programme, Paralegals and Youth Engagement and Support (YES) members disseminated leaflets, stickers on ALAC services

and announced through megaphones that ALAC is providing free legal advices to the victims of corruption related cases. Paralegals also interviewed the persons who have bitter experiences for corruption.

On 27 & 28 November 2018, Peoples Theatre of YES group staged a play named 'Douratto' focusing challenges of getting service on education, health, local government and land issues and how to overcome the challenges through ALAC services.

Active Mothers Forum for ensuring quality education

Aiming to increase transparency & accountability and ensure participation of mothers of students at primary education, a meeting with the Active Mothers Forum of Kandergati Govt. Primary School and Committee of Concerned Citizens (CCC), Jhalakati was held on 13 November 2018. Ms. Sharmin, Coordinator of Active Mothers Forum presided over the meeting organized at the courtyard of Nayabaribeshide the school.

Participants discussed various issues including visiting school by mothers and discuss the problems with the teachers, home visit of irregular students, organize regular courtyard meeting and provide education friendly environment to the students at their home. Members of the forum expressed their commitment to make aware other mothers of the school. They also seek cooperation for admitting all children to the school from their catchment area.



CCC members requested mothers of the students to provide necessary guidance and quality time to their children along with sufficient educational equipment. Vice President of the CCC Dr. Kamrunnessa Azad delivered the welcome speech while Area Manager of CCC, Jhalakati moderated the

programme. Among others, Md. Sayedur Kabir, president of the School Management Committee (SMC), members of the forum Ms. Fatima, Beauty Begum and Marium Begum also expressed their opinion in the meeting.

ISWR, DU-YES members participated in a capacity building session

Four YES members from the YES groups of Institute of Social Welfare and Research (ISWR), Department of Development Studies of the University of Dhaka; and Jahangirnagar University participated in a three-day Capacity Building workshop on 'Youth-led Action Research' from 5-7 November 2018, organized by Campaign for Popular Education (CAMPE) at CAMPE training center. The objectives of the workshop included (a) to understand the framework of action research and how this can be applied to mobilize and enable the community youth leaders to articulate issues and actions addressing their concerns; (b) to agree on a design and plan of actions to implement action research with the community youth leaders, and (c) to enhance confidence of the participants.



ULAB-YES carried out a daylong Anti-Corruption Campaign

YES Group-University of Liberal Arts Bangladesh (ULAB) organized a daylong Anti-Corruption Campaign on 03 November 2018 to mark the Club Day which included an Anti-Corruption Dart Board and Quiz competitions. Students and faculties from different departments and members from other clubs participated in the competitions. ULAB authority appreciated YES initiatives for sensitizing the young minds against corruption.

IER-YES arranged Anti-corruption Dart Board Competition

YES Group-Institute of Education and Research (IER) organized a daylong Anti-Corruption Dart Board Competition on 08 November 2018. Professor Syeda Tahmina Akhter, Director of IER inaugurated the event. She along with the faculties of the institute also participated in the competition. Students participated and appreciated the unique initiative of YES members.



SAU-YES observed the National Agricultural Day 2018



YES group- Sher-e-Bangla Agricultural University organized a day-long 'Anti-Corruption Cartoon Exhibition' on 18 November at their campus to celebrate the National Agricultural Day 2018. The exhibition was inaugurated by Professor Dr. Kamal Uddin Ahamed, Vice Chancellor of the university while YES adviser and YES members were present there. Numerous students, teacher and staff of the university visited the exhibition.

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