



RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ENSURING INTEGRITY, TRANSPARENCY AND ACCOUNTABILITY IN CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION FUND

INTRODUCTION

Transparency International-Kenya (TI-Kenya) was established in 1999 with the main purpose of creating a Kenyan society that is free from corruption. Transparency International-Kenya is an autonomous affiliate of Transparency International, a global coalition against corruption. TI-Kenya's vision is a Kenyan society that upholds transparency, integrity and is free from corruption. The organization's mission is to support citizens and government institutions effect transparency and accountability across all sectors through legal and policy frameworks, skills, knowledge and information. TI-Kenya remains a good governance watch dog whose key activities are geared toward strengthening transparency and accountability in the management of public affairs in Kenya. The organization seeks to strengthen governance practices in Kenya through campaigning for better policy frameworks and empowering citizens to demand for better governance at local levels.

Through a mapping exercise of tracking climate finance carried out by TI-Kenya through the climate governance programme, the study showed that there is lack of clear distinction of climate finance and other development finances flowing into Kenya. This then provides appropriate brooding environment for risks associated with the mismanagement and governance of climate finance as a completely new area of financing. Despite numerous pledges for climate financing, effectiveness of these finances remains unmeasured and or inadequate. In this backdrop, the Kenya Government has been spending money from the revenue budget as well as international funding through various projects related to climate change, which has been acclaimed internationally.

The Kenya climate finance Governance network coordinated by TI- Kenya recommends NEMA for having successfully undergone a very rigorous and systematic evaluation by the Adaptation Fund Accreditation Panel after its application to Adaptation Fund Board.

In order to strengthen Kenya's position in national and international arena, emphasis is being laid on the following recommendations for ensuring transparency, accountability and justice in determining policies and management cum utilization of fund (project preparation, selection and implementation) related to Kenya climate adaptation Funds.

Transparency and Accountability:

1. Based on the principle of open access to information, publication and availability of voluntary disclosures and demand-based information regarding disbursement and management of climate fund, projects under implementation and audits cum evaluation reports on spent money should be ensured;

2. The concerned people should be kept informed about the project and effective participation of representatives from the affected population and the civil society should be ensured in all stages of the project in order to curb corruption in climate finance;
3. Experienced specialists who do not suffer from any conflict of interests should be involved in the selection and approval process of projects through the adaptation finances
4. Social Impact Surveys including those on environment, forests and bio-diversity should be undertaken before approval of projects and disclosed for public review and monitoring
5. Priority should be attached to allocations for regions and populations facing greater effects of climate change in the implementation of programmes and projects after re-evaluating increased risks and damages due to climate change;

Observer position in the review committee:

In the spirit of the new constitution article 35, we hereby request that NEMA adopts transparency practises by similar international climate funds by including an observer position for non partisan civil society organisations whose role besides providing independent report of the review and selection process will be an avenue to espouse transparency in the running and management of the funds.

Capacity building of county /district environment officers on climate governance under NEMA

Through the previously mentioned report, we found that some NEMA officials in the rural areas were not acquainted with the latest development on climate finance governance in Kenya. Of reference is the role of NEMA in Clean Development Mechanism (CDM) as well as this recent achievement. We hereby propose establishment of an updating mechanism amongst your officers who are the face of NEMA to the locals, private bodies, other government officers and the general public - the same that NEMA is called to regulate and capacity build.