Towards greater accountability for climate finance

Experiences from the Adaptation Finance Accountability Initiative
INTRODUCTION TO AFAI
Adaptation Finance Accountability Initiative

Partnership to promote accountability of adaptation finance at the national level
MIND THE ACCOUNTABILITY GAP
# AFAI Approach to Accountability

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Actor</th>
<th>Commitment</th>
<th>Accountable to whom?</th>
<th>Existing oversight mechanism</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Donor governments</td>
<td>Provide support to countries that are vulnerable to climate change</td>
<td>Recipient countries and citizens within those countries</td>
<td>UNFCCC reporting and negotiations, international non-governmental organizations monitoring and right to information</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recipient governments</td>
<td>Protect citizens from harm</td>
<td>Citizens, especially the ones most vulnerable to climate impact</td>
<td>National accountability mechanisms (budget cycle, CSOs, formal oversight institutions like supreme audit institutions and parliaments)</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Equity.** Actions consider social inequalities and promote equality. **Participation.** Processes allow stakeholders (gov, private sector, CSOs and communities) to provide informed, timely, and meaningful input and influence decisions that affect them. **Responsiveness.** Resources are directed in response to the needs and interests of the most vulnerable people and communities. **Ownership.** Stakeholders at the national and subnational levels decide what actions need to be taken. **Transparency.** Stakeholders can gather information about the use of funding and the activities that are being carried out.
Components of Social Accountability

based on Joshi (2013)

- Information leads to change
- Official response provides information

Public Information

- Information leads to citizen action
- Citizen action leads to information

Outcomes

- Service Delivery
- Governance
- Empowerment of citizens

Official Response

- Citizen action leads to official response
- Official response shapes citizen action

Citizen Action
Sandwich Approach to Accountability
From Fox (2014)

The Sandwich Strategy
Opening From Above Meets Mobilization from Below

Reformists
(with power over policy implementation)

Voice
Collective action in support of accountability

Interlocutors
Support for scaled-up collective action & voice

Resistance to accountability
(from both inside & outside the state)

Pressure from below
Possible reprisals
Likely tension

Media coverage
?

Public interest advocacy & collective action

Ecosystem for Adaptation Finance Accountability

UNFCCC
- Recognize need for greater transparency and role of civil society
- Set guidelines for reporting on adaptation finance

Providers of International Finance
- Report to UNFCCC and recipients

National Governments
- Recognize role of civil society
- Respond to concerns
- Report national adaptation flows / finance received

Civil Society Organizations
- Build partnerships
- Gather data and concerns
- Link local, national and international partners

Parliament
- Oversight of adaptation finance
- Law making on adaptation finance transparency
- Cooperate with citizens

Media

Local Communities and Actors

Adaptation interventions
- Participate in design and implementation

Aggregate and report on lessons learned

Hold government to account

Publish information

Respond to concerns

Report to recipient on finance provided

Respond to concerns

Respond to concerns

Report on adaptation finance

UNFCCC
- Recognize need for greater transparency and role of civil society
- Set guidelines for reporting on adaptation finance

Hold providers to account

 Aggregate voice and concerns

Monitor flows and activities
IS ADAPTATION FINANCE REACHING LOCAL COMMUNITIES?
Channeling Adaptation Funds to Local Level
Routes for Adaptation Finance - Zambia
Getting better at reaching vulnerable communities:

1) Two-tiered approach to vulnerability assessment

2) Invest in building local government capabilities

3) Work with and strengthen domestic accountability processes

4) Engage local communities throughout adaptation programming life cycle
Engaging Local Communities

![Engaging Local Communities Diagram]
ACCOUNTABILITY IS EVERYONE’S BUSINESS
Promoting Accountability for Adaptation Finance

- **UNFCCC**
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  - Set guidelines for reporting on adaptation finance

- **Providers of International Finance**
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- **National Governments**
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  - Build partnerships
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- **Parliament**
  - Oversight of adaptation finance
  - Law making on adaptation finance transparency
  - Cooperate with citizens

- **Local Communities and Actors**
  - Adaptation interventions

- **Media**
  - Reporting obligation

- **Response to concerns**
  - Local Communities and Actors
  - Civil Society Organizations
  - National Governments
  - Providers of International Finance
  - Parliament

- **Aggregate voice and concerns**
- **Aggregate and report on lessons learned**
- **Publish information**
  - Monitor flows and activities
  - Participate in design and implementation

- **Hold providers to account**
  - Respond to concerns

- **UNFCCC**
  - Reporting obligation