WILL NATURE-BASED SOLUTIONS CONTINUE THE STATUS QUO?

NBS: How to avoid land grabbing in the name of biodiversity?
European Parliament, Docip, Fern, TI - October 12, 2021
CLIMATE VULNERABILITY DIRECTLY LINKED WITH CORRUPTION

20-40% of development assistance is STOLEN due to corruption.
HIGHER CORRUPTION RISKS ARE A MAJOR BARRIER TO CLIMATE ACTION
Impacts of corruption in climate action

- **Mitigation measures** do not reduce carbon emissions, or even cause an increase
  - **Conflicts of interest** weaken env. regulations & emissions standards
  - **Bribes** increase deforestation with authorities ignoring illegal tree cutting
  - **Kickbacks** reduce the effectiveness of clean energy programmes

- **Adaptation measures** will be insignificant
  - **Undue influence** enables corporate interests to capture policy
  - **Fraud** diverts the funds to in suboptimal areas
  - **Embezzlement** reduces the funds available for adaptive infrastructure

@BohmerBrice
THERE IS A CORRELATION BETWEEN CORRUPTION & RULE OF LAW, AND ENVIRONMENTAL CRIMES & KILLINGS.

Impunity: 10% of murders result in conviction.
CASE STUDIES

Bangladesh: Funding misappropriated.
A government engineer located a shelter near his house. Other houses were not fully built because the implementer run away.

We convinced the government to finish the houses for the affected population and stop funding streams that benefited fake NGOs.

Today, communities take part in monitoring how climate funds are used. Climate projects are implemented where they are needed.

Maldives: Ignoring community voices.
Construction is threatening the fragile coral reefs & azure blue lagoons, and community ownership of climate projects was low.

We helped communities to advocate for their rights. The government committed over US$ 1m to address locals affected by non-inclusive planning.

Today, communities' voices are heard as they participate in climate resilience project decision making.

Peru: Bribes and death threats.
Corruption is widespread. Global investors snapped up land that leave Amazonian indigenous communities destitute.

We uncovered the role of corruption in deforestation and supported indigenous people to raise the issue through legal investigations.

Corruption in deforestation and the resulting abuses are recognised at national and international levels - inc. at the Inter-American Council on Human Rights.
GOVERNANCE ASSESSMENT OF CAFI

CENTRAL AFRICAN FOREST INITIATIVE

@BohmerBrice
CLIMATE FINANCE: HOW CAN IT HELP TO PROTECT FORESTS AND HUMAN RIGHTS?
A REPORT BY TRANSPARENCY INTERNATIONAL AND FERN

Key questions
- What is the ecological, economic, and social value of forest climate financing?
- What are its implications on governance, on community and Indigenous Peoples' rights?

Aims
- Give overview of finance flows and governance arrangements
- Identify gaps, obstacles, and opportunities
- Improve the governance of forest climate finance to the benefit of communities

Methods
- Analysis of key forest finance sources
- Literature review on forest climate finance governance
- Surveys and interviews in Cameroon, Democratic Republic of Congo, Ghana, Indonesia, Peru and the Republic of Congo
# MAIN FINDINGS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Total climate finance</th>
<th>With grant-equivalence</th>
<th>Forest climate finance</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>US$78.9 billion</td>
<td>US$25 billion</td>
<td>US$ 19.4 billion</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Impact on forest protection:** unclear  
- Mostly in **early** stages  
- **Deforestation rates still rising** in most countries surveyed  
- Forest climate finance **competing** with economic activities  

**Impact on communities:** mixed picture  
- **Some improvements**, e.g. women’s participation, efforts to include civil society  
- Considerable **concerns**, e.g. fears that programs could contribute to land expropriation and further marginalization of vulnerable groups
RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Improve access to information, establish and implement transparency policies for forest climate finance

2. Broaden participation of civil society, community and Indigenous groups (and the use of multi-stakeholder approaches)

3. Enhance independent monitoring capacity, and implement redress mechanisms and whistleblower protections to address corruption risks

4. Establish community-owned and -managed projects, and improve land tenure, to reduce land use conflicts and reduce deforestation

5. Ensure climate finance contributions are adequate and predictable, as well as equitable benefit-sharing
THANK YOU!

BRICE BÖHMER

CLIMATE & ENVIRONMENT INTEGRITY LEAD
bboehmer@transparency.org

WWW.TRANSAPRENCY.ORG/CLIMATE

Follow us on @anticorruption @BohmerBrice