IMPROVING CIVIL SOCIETY’S LIMITED ACCESS TO THE GREEN CLIMATE FUND

BASED ON AN ANALYSIS OF GCF POLICIES AND LESSONS LEARNED FROM FIVE CASE STUDIES

The Green Climate Fund (GCF) is considered as the flagship fund for climate finance. However, local non-state actors in many developing countries, such as civil society organisations (CSOs) and community-based organisations (CBOs), that can truly make a difference in addressing both adaptation and mitigation efforts in climate vulnerable populations, continue to have very limited direct access to the GCF.

Addressing, reducing and overcoming barriers of direct access will be essential for the Fund to fulfil its mission of transformative change-making. A shift towards local and community level organisations of the Green Climate Fund is key in delivering on the Paris Agreement.

BARRIERS FOR CSOs TO ACCESS GCF FUNDS ARE SYSTEMIC, WIDESPREAD AND EVIDENT IN REALITY:

1. Complex CSO accreditation
2. Limited direct access
3. Complicated project approval processes
4. Lack of local rootedness
5. Weak national consultation processes
6. Lack of all-of-society country ownership

SPECIFIC POLICY DEMANDS TO THE GCF:

1. Develop a more enabling framework that removes all barriers and provide simplified access to funding to benefit CSOs, CBOs and vulnerable people
2. Put in place appropriate measures to ensure full participation and consultation of CSOs in country programming
3. Respond more favourably to CSO expectations on options to receive GCF support for their climate actions
4. Simplify accreditation processes for CSOs as implementing entities, especially local CSOs from developing countries

CIDSE study “Improving civil society’s limited access to the green climate fund”

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