MANUAL ON ————

STRENGTHENING CLIMATE GOVERNANCE

Through Social Accountability and Citizen's Oversight In Local Climate Initiatives

TRANSPARENCY INTERNATIONAL GHANA

ACEP
Africa Centre for Energy Policy

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ACKNOWLEDGMENT

PREFACE

The Ghana Integrity Initiative (GII) is implementing the project "Strengthening Climate Governance through Social Accountability and Citizen's Oversight in Local Climate Initiatives," supported by the Extractive Industry and Climate Change Governance (EICCG) Fund of the Africa Centre for Energy Policy (ACEP). This initiative aims to enhance transparency and accountability in climate-related public investments, ensuring the active inclusion of stakeholders in decision-making processes. Focused on promoting transparency, accountability, and inclusivity, the project emphasizes citizen-driven climate actions in the planning, approval, and implementation of Ghana's climate policies. It also seeks to empower citizens to demand accountability through social accountability mechanisms, thereby strengthening climate governance and protecting vulnerable populations from corruption.

This manual serves as a practical guide for CSOs, CBOs, and citizens to promote transparency and accountability in climate-related decision-making and public investments. It provides tools, frameworks, and best practices to support the successful implementation of the project and achieve its objectives.

INTRODUCTION TO THE MANUAL

Climate change represents one of the most critical challenges of our time, influencing science, economics, society, politics, and ethics. While it is a global issue, its impacts are experienced locally, shaping communities and their futures for generations to come.

To address these challenges, the Ghana Integrity Initiative (GII) initiated the project titled "Strengthening Climate Governance through Social Accountability and Citizen's Oversight in Local Climate Initiatives", with funding support from the Extractive Industry and Climate Change Governance (EICCG) Fund of the Africa Centre for Energy Policy (ACEP).

As part of this initiative, GII developed this Manual to serve as a comprehensive guide for stakeholders. It introduces key concepts, tools, approaches, and exercises to enhance climate governance through social accountability and citizen oversight in local climate initiatives.

The Manual provides practical roadmaps, policy toolkits, and peer support to empower local authorities and communities to make informed and effective investments in climate action.

Specific the Manual seeks to:

I   Enhance the capacity of Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) and citizen groups to actively report and address corruption under Ghana's National Anti-Corruption Action Plan **(NACAP 2015–2024).**

II   Foster increased awareness among CSOs, the media, and local stakeholders on the principles of climate governance and their role in promoting transparency and accountability in climate-related initiatives.

III   Provide practical tools and resources to support local authorities and communities in implementing effective and inclusive climate governance frameworks.

IV   Improve the reporting of corruption cases through the Advocacy and Legal Advice Centre (ALAC).

SECTION 1: INTRODUCTION TO CLIMATE GOVERNANCE

What is Climate Governance?

Climate governance refers to the frameworks, policies, and practices designed to tackle climate change through collaboration at all levels of governance. It brings together various stakeholders, including international organizations, national governments, and local communities, to reduce the impacts of climate change and support sustainable development. The complexity of climate governance lies in the need to coordinate efforts across different sectors and scales, making it crucial to understand how various governance structures interact and work together.

Importance of Climate Governance:

Climate governance plays a vital role in tackling the complex challenges of climate change. It involves strategies and frameworks that promote sustainability in policymaking and encourage collaboration among different stakeholders.

i. Climate governance ensures that environmental sustainability is integrated into decision-making at all levels, aligning policies with sustainable development goals.

ii. It supports the use of regulations and economic incentives to drive eco-innovation and encourage sustainable practices in industries.

iii. Effective climate governance prioritizes equity and justice, ensuring that the needs of vulnerable communities are addressed in climate policies.

iv. It promotes inclusive participation by balancing the interests of all stakeholders in climate-related decision-making.

v. Climate governance highlights the shared responsibility of governments, Civil Society Organizations (CSOs), and the private sector in working together to achieve sustainability goals.

SECTION 2: CLIMATE CHANGE CONCEPTS AND IMPACTS

What is Climate Change

Climate change refers to significant, long-term changes in weather patterns and climate systems, largely caused by human activities that alter the composition of the atmosphere. It includes both natural variations and human-induced factors, such as fossil fuel burning and deforestation, which increase greenhouse gas emissions and contribute to global warming. The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) defines climate change as a long-term shift in temperature, precipitation, or other climate patterns, largely caused by human activities.

KEY ASPECTS OF CLIMATE CHANGE

Human-Induced Factors

The main drivers of climate change are human activities, such as carbon dioxide emissions from burning fossil fuels, urbanization, and changes in land use. These activities disrupt the natural balance of greenhouse gases.

Natural Variability

Climate change is also influenced by natural factors, including solar activity and volcanic eruptions, which can alter climate patterns over time.

IMPACTS OF CLIMATE CHANGE

1. Rising temperatures and heatwaves

2. Extreme weather events like

3. Melting ice caps and rising sea levels

4. Threats to biodiversity and ecosystems

5. Increased health risks

Consequences: Climate change has widespread impacts, including extreme weather events, rising sea levels, and significant effects on agriculture and biodiversity.

GLOBAL WARMING

A rise in Earth's temperature due to increased greenhouse gas emissions, such as carbon dioxide and methane

GREENHOUSE EFFECT

Greenhouse gases trap heat in the atmosphere, warming the planet. These include carbon dioxide, methane, nitrous oxide, and fluorinated gases.

Responding to Climate Change

Addressing climate change involves two key approaches: reducing and stabilizing greenhouse gas levels in the atmosphere, known as **"mitigation"** and adjusting to the impacts of climate change that are already occurring, referred to as **"adaptation."**

MITIGATION

Mitigation in climate change involves strategies to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and increase carbon absorption to address the harmful effects of climate change. This approach includes a range of actions, from individual lifestyle adjustments to broad policy measures, all focused on preserving natural resources and reducing environmental degradation.

Key Strategies for Mitigation

Carbon sequestration
The process of capturing and storing carbon dioxide (CO_2) from the atmosphere to help mitigate climate change. This can be achieved through methods such as geological storage, sustainable agricultural practices, and biological processes. Its importance lies in its ability to lower atmospheric CO_2 levels, reducing the greenhouse effect and minimizing long-term environmental impacts.

Transition to Clean Energy
Reducing emissions requires shifting from fossil fuels to renewable energy sources such as solar, wind, and biomass.

Policy and Regulation
Strong environmental policies and international agreements, like the Paris Agreement, are essential for coordinated global action.

Community Engagement
Collective efforts by individuals, businesses, and governments are crucial to building a sustainable relationship with the environment.

ADAPTATION

Climate change adaptation involves adjusting to the current or anticipated effects of climate change. Its goal is to minimize or prevent harm to people and communities. Adaptation is often implemented alongside mitigation efforts to address climate change comprehensively.

Key Strategies for Adaptation

Infrastructure Resilience: Strengthening infrastructure to withstand extreme weather, such as floods, storms, and heatwaves. This includes building flood defenses, reinforcing buildings, and improving drainage systems.

Ecosystem-Based Adaptation: Utilizing natural ecosystems to buffer against climate impacts. Examples include restoring wetlands to absorb floodwaters, maintaining forests to stabilize soil, and protecting coral reefs to reduce coastal erosion.

Water Resource Management: Enhancing water storage, improving irrigation efficiency, and developing drought-resistant crops to ensure water availability during shortages.

Agricultural Adaptation: Adopting climate-resilient crops, diversifying crops, and implementing sustainable farming practices to maintain food security.

Urban Planning: Designing cities to cope with climate impacts, such as creating green spaces to reduce heat, improving building insulation, and developing efficient public transport to lower emissions.

Early Warning Systems: Establishing systems to predict and alert communities about extreme weather events, enabling timely evacuations and preparations.

Community Engagement and Education: Involving local communities in adaptation planning and raising awareness about climate risks and responses.

Policy and Governance: Developing and enforcing policies that promote adaptation, such as zoning laws, building codes, and incentives for sustainable practices.

Health System Strengthening: Preparing healthcare systems for climate-related health issues, such as heat stress, vector-borne diseases, and respiratory problems.

Financial Mechanisms: Providing funding and insurance options to support adaptation efforts, particularly for vulnerable communities.

Research and Innovation: Investing in research to develop new technologies and strategies for adaptation and to understand local climate impacts better.

Disaster Risk Reduction: Integrating climate adaptation with disaster risk management to reduce vulnerability and enhance recovery from climate-related disasters.

SECTION 3: SOCIAL ACCOUNTABILITY IN CLIMATE CHANGE AND CITIZEN'S OVERSIGHT

What is Social Accountability? A process where citizens participate in monitoring government and institutional activities to ensure transparency and accountability. Social accountability in climate change refers to the obligation of governments, organizations, businesses, and individuals to act transparently, inclusively, and responsibly in their efforts to address climate change. It underscores the importance of being answerable to the public and stakeholders, especially those most affected by climate impacts, such as vulnerable and marginalized communities.

Key elements of social accountability in climate change include:

Transparency: Ensuring that information about climate policies, decisions, and actions is openly available and accessible to the public. This includes clear communication about climate risks, mitigation strategies, and adaptation plans.

Participation: Involving a wide range of stakeholders, including local communities, indigenous groups, civil society, women, and persons with disabilities, in the development and implementation of climate policies and projects. This ensures that diverse perspectives and needs are considered.

Responsiveness: Addressing the concerns and priorities of stakeholders, particularly those who are most vulnerable to climate impacts. This involves adapting policies and actions based on feedback and changing circumstances.

Monitoring and Evaluation: Regularly assessing the effectiveness and impact of climate actions and policies. This includes tracking progress towards climate goals and making adjustments as needed.

Redress Mechanisms: Providing avenues for stakeholders to seek redress if they are adversely affected by climate policies or projects. This ensures accountability and justice for those impacted.

Ethical Conduct: Adhering to ethical principles and values in all climate-related actions. This includes respecting human rights, promoting equity, and ensuring that climate actions do not exacerbate existing inequalities.

Inclusivity: Ensuring that all voices, especially those of marginalized and vulnerable groups including women, persons with disabilities, are heard and considered in climate decision-making processes. This promotes equitable and just climate action, addressing the specific needs of these groups.

Accountability Mechanisms: Establishing formal and informal mechanisms to hold entities accountable for their climate commitments and actions. This can include legal frameworks, independent audits, and citizen-led initiatives.

Social accountability in climate change is crucial for building trust, ensuring effective and equitable climate action, and achieving sustainable development goals. It helps to ensure that climate policies and actions are not only effective in reducing emissions and enhancing resilience but also fair and just, considering the needs and rights of all stakeholders.

What is Citizen's Oversight? Citizen oversight involves communities directly monitoring and influencing projects to ensure resources are used effectively. Citizen's oversight in climate change refers to the active involvement of individuals and communities in monitoring, evaluating, and holding accountable the actions and policies of governments, organizations, and businesses related to climate change. This participatory approach ensures that climate actions are transparent, effective, equitable, and aligned with the needs and rights of the public, particularly vulnerable and marginalized groups.

Key aspects of citizen's oversight in climate change

Monitoring and Reporting: Citizens and community groups track the implementation of climate policies, projects, and commitments. This can involve collecting data, observing activities, and reporting on progress or shortcomings.

Transparency and Access to Information: Ensuring that relevant information about climate actions, decisions, and outcomes is publicly available and accessible. This empowers citizens to make informed assessments and hold entities accountable.

Participatory Decision-Making: Involving citizens in the planning, implementation, and evaluation of climate policies and projects. This can include public consultations, participatory budgeting, and community-led initiatives.

Advocacy and Awareness: Raising awareness about climate issues and advocating for stronger climate action. Citizen groups can mobilize public opinion, lobby policymakers, and push for more ambitious and just climate policies.

Accountability Mechanisms: Establishing formal and informal mechanisms for citizens to hold entities accountable. This can include public hearings, social audits, citizen report cards, and legal actions.

Feedback and Redress: Providing channels for citizens including journalists/media to give feedback on climate actions and seek redress if they are adversely affected. Investigative journalism plays a critical role in uncovering gaps, exposing mismanagement, and amplying citizens concerns. This ensures that concerns are addressed, and corrective actions are taken.

Collaboration and Partnerships: Working collaboratively with governments, Civil Society Organizations (CSOs), and other stakeholders to enhance the effectiveness and inclusivity of climate actions. Citizen oversight can complement official monitoring and evaluation efforts.

Empowerment and Capacity Building: Equipping citizens, including community groups and local journalists/Media with the knowledge, skills, and resources needed to effectively participate in oversight activities. This includes training programs on climate governance, investigative reporting on climate issues, workshops, and the dissemination of educational materials. Strengthening media capacity ensures that climate-related information is accurately reported, fostering informed public discourse and action.

Example: Local groups in a community audited climate funds, leading to improved project efficiency.

SECTION 4: CLIMATE GOVERNANCE FRAMEWORKS

Global climate Frameworks refers to the collective efforts and structures established by the international community to address climate change.

Key Global Frameworks Include:

The United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) is a landmark international treaty established in 1992 to promote global collaboration in combating climate change. Its primary aim is to stabilize greenhouse gas concentrations to prevent harmful interference with the climate system. Over time, the UNFCCC has played a key role in fostering major agreements, such as the Kyoto Protocol and the Paris Agreement,

The following sections provide an overview of its key aspects:

Historical Context and Objectives
The UNFCCC was adopted at the 1992 Rio Earth Summit and has been ratified by 198 states.

Its main objective is to stabilize greenhouse gas levels to prevent dangerous human-induced impacts on the climate system (Drennen, 2022).

Mechanisms and Achievements
The UNFCCC hosts Conferences of the Parties (COP) where nations negotiate and assess climate action. The Paris Agreement, introduced in 2015, builds on UNFCCC principles and seeks to limit global warming to below 2°.

Kyoto Protocol: Adopted in 1997, this protocol operationalizes the UNFCCC by committing industrialized countries to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. It introduced mechanisms like emissions trading, the Clean Development Mechanism (CDM), and joint implementation.

Paris Agreement: Adopted in 2015, the Paris Agreement is a landmark accord within the UNFCCC framework. It aims to limit global warming to well below 2°C above pre-industrial levels, with efforts to limit the increase to 1.5°C.

Key Elements Include:

Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs): Countries submit their plans for reducing emissions and adapting to climate impacts.

Global Stocktake: A process to assess collective progress towards the agreement's goals.

Transparency Framework: Ensures that countries report on their emissions and progress in a transparent manner.

Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC): Provides scientific assessments on climate change, its impacts, and potential future risks, as well as adaptation and mitigation options. The

IPCC's reports are crucial for informing policy decisions.

Green Climate Fund (GCF): Established to assist developing countries in adaptation and mitigation practices to counter climate change. It aims to channel a significant portion of climate finance to vulnerable regions.

UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs): Goal 13 focuses on climate action

The United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) are a set of 17 global goals adopted in 2015 to address pressing social, economic, and environmental challenges by 2030. Goal 13 specifically focuses on Climate Action, urging countries to take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts. Here's an overview of Goal 13 and its significance:

Key Objectives of Goal 13: Climate Action

Goal 13 aims to:

a. Strengthen resilience and adaptive capacity to climate-related hazards and natural disasters.

b. Integrate climate change measures into national policies, strategies, and planning.

c. Improve education, awareness-raising, and capacity-building on climate change mitigation, adaptation, impact reduction, and early warning.

d. Implement the UNFCCC commitment to mobilize $100 billion annually by 2020 to address the needs of developing countries in climate action.

e. Promote mechanisms to raise capacity for effective climate change-related planning and management, particularly in least developed countries and small island developing states.

Targets of Goal 13

Goal 13 includes five specific targets:

13.1: Strengthen resilience and adaptive capacity to climate-related hazards and natural disasters in all countries.

13.2: Integrate climate change measures into national policies, strategies, and planning.

13.3: Improve education, awareness, and human and institutional capacity on climate change mitigation, adaptation, impact reduction, and early warning.

13.a: Implement the commitment by developed countries to mobilize $**100** billion annually by **2020** to address the needs of developing countries in climate action and fully operationalize the Green Climate Fund.

13.b: Promote mechanisms for raising capacity for effective climate change-related planning and management in least developed countries and small island developing states, including focusing on women, youth, and marginalized communities.

Linkages to Other SDGs

Goal 13 is interconnected with many other SDGs:
Goal 7 (Affordable and Clean Energy): Transitioning to renewable energy reduces greenhouse gas emissions.

Goal 11 (Sustainable Cities and Communities): Building climate-resilient urban infrastructure.

Goal 14 (Life Below Water) and Goal 15 (Life on Land): Protecting ecosystems that act as carbon sinks.

Goal 12 (Responsible Consumption and Production): Reducing emissions through sustainable practices.

Local Frameworks:

Ghana has been undertaking activities aimed at reducing its contribution to, mitigating the impact of, and decreasing its vulnerability to climate change since its participation in the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development in Rio de Janeiro in 1992. As part of its obligations under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and the Kyoto Protocol, Ghana developed the National Climate Change Policy (NCCP) to guide all national efforts to deal with our contribution to reducing climate change and to protect the national environment from climate change effects. The aim of the NCCP is:

- To ensure a climate-resilient and climate-compatible economy while achieving sustainable development through equitable low carbon economic growth for Ghana (NCCP, 2013:ix)

The Ministry of Environment, Science, Technology and Innovation is the main institution responsible for implementing the NCCP and this is achieved by working through a number of agencies to research and promote climate change issues. Owing to the multiplicity of effects of, and contribution to, climate change within societies, other institutions have played roles in the implementation of the NCCP. These other institutions include Ministry of Finance and Economic Planning, National Development Planning Commission, Ministry of Communications (Ghana Meteorological Agency), Ministry of Lands and Natural Resources, Ministry of Local Government and Rural Development, Ministry of Health, Ministry of Water Resources, Works and Housing, Ministry of Food and Agriculture, Ministry of Energy, Ministry of Education, Ministry of Gender, Children and Social Protection, and Ministry of Roads and Highways (NCCP, 2013: x).

Ghana's Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs)

Ghana, as a party to the Paris Agreement, has submitted its NDCs outlining its commitments to combat climate change.

Key elements of Ghana's NDCs include:

Mitigation: Ghana aims to reduce its greenhouse gas emissions by 15% unconditionally and by an additional 30% conditionally (subject to international support) by 2030.

KEY SECTORS TARGETED FOR MITIGATION INCLUDE:

Energy: Promoting renewable energy, energy efficiency, and clean cooking solutions.

Transport: Improving public transportation and adopting low-emission vehicles.

Agriculture: Implementing sustainable agricultural practices and reducing emissions from livestock.

Forestry: Enhancing forest conservation, reforestation, and reducing deforestation.

Adaptation: Ghana's adaptation efforts focus on building resilience to climate impacts, particularly in vulnerable sectors such as:

Water Resources: Improving water management and infrastructure to cope with droughts and floods.

Agriculture: Developing climate-resilient crops and sustainable farming techniques.

Health: Strengthening healthcare systems to address climate-related health issues.

Coastal Zones: Protecting coastal areas from sea-level rise and erosion.

Cross-Cutting Issues: Ghana emphasizes the importance of integrating climate action into national development planning, enhancing capacity building, and promoting gender equality and social inclusion in climate initiatives.

Implementation and Financing: Ghana's NDCs highlight the need for financial resources, technology transfer, and capacity-building support from the international community to achieve its climate goals. The country also emphasizes the role of public-private partnerships and innovative financing mechanisms.

Monitoring and Reporting: Ghana commits to transparent monitoring, reporting, and verification (MRV) of its climate actions. This includes establishing robust systems for data collection, analysis, and dissemination to track progress and ensure accountability.

SECTION 5: TOOLS FOR MONITORING CLIMATE PROJECTS

Monitoring climate projects is essential to ensure their effectiveness, transparency, and alignment with global and national climate goals. Several tools and frameworks are used globally and in Ghana to track progress, measure impacts, and ensure accountability.

TOOLS FOR MONITORING CLIMATE PROJECTS

Global Tools for Monitoring Climate Projects Climate Action Tracker (CAT):
- A tool that monitors countries' climate actions and compares them to the Paris Agreement goals.
- Tracks emissions reductions, policies, and targets to assess progress.

Global Climate Change Performance Index (CCPI):
- Ranks countries based on their climate performance in areas like emissions, renewable energy, and climate policy.
- Provides a comparative analysis of national efforts.

UNFCCC Transparency Framework:
- Requires countries to report on their greenhouse gas emissions, climate actions, and progress toward NDCs.
- Ensures accountability and transparency under the Paris Agreement.

Green Climate Fund (GCF) Monitoring and Evaluation Framework:
- Tracks the performance of GCF-funded projects, including their environmental, social, and economic impacts.
- Ensures that projects align with climate goals and deliver results.

World Resources Institute (WRI) Climate Watch:
- An online platform that provides data and visualizations on countries' climate actions, emissions, and NDCs.
- Helps stakeholders analyze trends and monitor progress.

Global Environment Facility (GEF) Tracking Tools:
- Monitors the impact of GEF-funded projects on climate change mitigation and adaptation.
- Focuses on outcomes like reduced emissions and enhanced resilience.

NDC Partnership Knowledge Portal:
- Provides resources and tools to support countries in implementing and monitoring their NDCs.
- Includes case studies, best practices, and data analysis.

TOOLS FOR MONITORING CLIMATE PROJECTS IN GHANA

Ghana Climate Innovation Center (GCIC):
- Supports climate-focused businesses and tracks their contributions to emissions reduction and sustainable development.
- Provides monitoring and evaluation frameworks for local projects.

Ghana National Climate Change Policy (NCCP) Monitoring Framework:
- Tracks the implementation of Ghana's climate policies and actions.
- Focuses on adaptation, mitigation, and cross-cutting issues like capacity building.

Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Ghana:
- Monitors greenhouse gas emissions and climate projects through its climate change unit.
- Ensures compliance with national and international climate commitments.

Ghana National Development Planning Commission (NDPC):
- Integrates climate actions into national development plans and monitors their implementation.
- Uses indicators to track progress on climate resilience and sustainability.

Ghana REDD+ Secretariat:
- Monitors forest-related climate projects aimed at reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation.
- Tracks progress using satellite imagery and ground-based data.

Ghana Meteorological Agency (GMet):
- Provides climate data and early warning systems to monitor climate risks and support adaptation projects.
- Tracks weather patterns and their impacts on agriculture, water resources, and disaster management.

District-Level Climate Monitoring Systems:
- Local governments in Ghana use tools to monitor climate projects at the community level.
- Focuses on adaptation measures like water management, agriculture, and disaster preparedness.

Key Features of Effective Monitoring Tools

Data Collection and Analysis: Tools should provide accurate and timely data on emissions, project outcomes, and climate impacts.

Transparency and Accountability: Ensure that stakeholders can access information and hold project implementers accountable.

Stakeholder Engagement: Involve local communities, governments, and Civil society Orgaisations (CSOs) in monitoring processes.

Adaptability: Tools should be flexible to address local contexts and changing climate conditions.

Integration with Global Frameworks: Align with international standards like the Paris Agreement and SDGs.

Digital Tools:
- Mobile apps for reporting environmental issues.
- Online dashboards for project tracking
-

Examples: The Climate Action Tracker is an independent scientific project that tracks government climate action and measures it against the globally agreed Paris Agreement aim of "holding warming well below 2°C, and pursuing efforts to limit warming to 1.5°C." A collaboration of two organisations, Climate Analytics and NewClimate Institute, the CAT has been providing this independent analysis to policymakers since 2009.

The Climate and Corruption Case Atlas: Transparency International's online Climate and Corruption Case Atlas was created to document corruption risks in the climate domain, including identifying where corruption has occurred in specific cases, and to capture lessons from those cases. The Atlas is not a definitive list of corruption cases in the climate domain, nor is it the product of a comprehensive literature or media review. It is an ever-expanding database of incidents that have come to the attention of Transparency International's Climate Governance Integrity Programme.

Community Tools:
- Participatory budget tracking.

Participatory Budgeting is a democratic process that empowers citizens to actively engage in budgetary decisions, influencing how resources are allocated. In practice, it ranges from allowing public input on portions of the budget to more comprehensive approaches. These include openness to all citizens, blending direct and representative democracy, fostering deliberation (not just consultation), enabling self-regulation, and prioritizing redistribution to benefit the poor.

- Social audits

Social audit is a robust social accountability tool that examines public officials' decisions and actions for administrative or financial irregularities. It identifies discrepancies by comparing public documents, processes, or services with expected standards. Known by various names and forms—such as social audits in Guatemala, anti-corruption brigades in Peru, or social auditing clubs in Ghana empowers citizens to hold authorities accountable.

Key Questions for Monitoring

1. Are funds allocated effectively?
2. Are the projects meeting their objectives?
3. Are the benefits reaching the target communities?

SECTION 6: INNOVATIVE APPROACHES TO SOCIAL ACCOUNTABILITY

Participatory Planning
Involve citizens in project design and implementation.

Crowdsourcing Data
Leverage technology to gather real-time feedback from the community.

Peer-to-Peer Learning
Facilitate knowledge-sharing sessions among communities.

Case Example
A mobile app enabled citizens to report illegal logging activities, leading to swift action by authorities.

SECTION 7: PRACTICAL STEPS FOR CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT

Organize Town Halls
Create platforms for dialogue.

Train Community Monitors
Equip citizens with skills to track climate projects.

Establish Feedback Channels
Set up anonymous reporting systems.

SECTION 8: CAPACITY-BUILDING EXERCISES

Activity 1: Mapping Local Climate Issues

1. Break into groups and identify top environmental challenges.
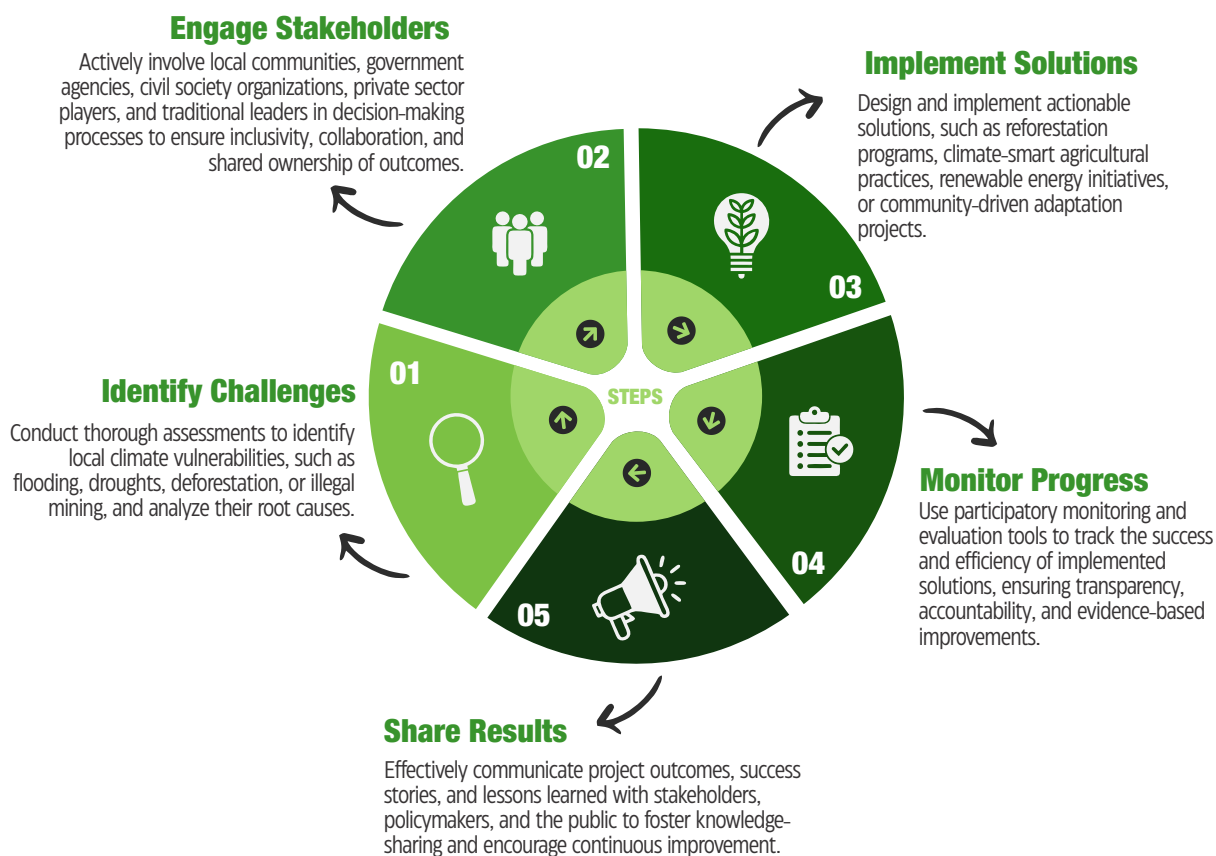2. Discuss root causes and solutions.

Activity 2: Budget Tracking Simulation

1. Review a sample climate project budget.
2. Identify discrepancies or areas for improvement.

Checklist for Monitoring:

·   Does the project meet local needs?
·   Are funds utilized transparently?
·   Is there a grievance redress mechanism?

SECTION 10: INFOGRAPHICS AND VISUAL TOOLS

5 Key Steps for Effective Climate Governance

Engage Stakeholders

Actively involve local communities, government agencies, civil society organizations, private sector players, and traditional leaders in decision-making processes to ensure inclusivity, collaboration, and shared ownership of outcomes.

Implement Solutions

Design and implement actionable solutions, such as reforestation programs, climate-smart agricultural practices, renewable energy initiatives, or community-driven adaptation projects.

Identify Challenges

Conduct thorough assessments to identify local climate vulnerabilities, such as flooding, droughts, deforestation, or illegal mining, and analyze their root causes.

Monitor Progress

Use participatory monitoring and evaluation tools to track the success and efficiency of implemented solutions, ensuring transparency, accountability, and evidence-based improvements.

Share Results

Effectively communicate project outcomes, success stories, and lessons learned with stakeholders, policymakers, and the public to foster knowledge-sharing and encourage continuous improvement.

SECTION 11: FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQs)

How can I report misuse of climate funds?

Use local platforms like **ALAC** or contact your CSO.

MTN	**0800 100 250**
t	**0800 100 25**
at	**0800 100 250**
(WhatsApp)	**057 766 5295** WhatsApp

How can I participate in climate governance?

Attend community meetings, join Local Climate Committee, and leverage digital tools.

SECTION 12: ANNEXES AND ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

Key Contacts: Where to Report Corruption!

S/No	Institution/Organization	Enabling Legislation
1.	CHRAJ	Constitution & Act 456
2.	EOCO	Act 804 **Landline: ÷233 302 66 55 59**
3.	Ghana Police Service	Constitution and Act 370 **Landline: ÷233 302 779300** **÷233 302 779302-5**
4.	Office of Special Prosecutor	Act 959 **Toll free Line: 0800-000-700**
5.	GII's Advocacy and Legal Advice Centre (ALAC): **Toll free lines:** **(Telecel - 0800 100 25) (Airtel/Tigo - 0800 100 250) (MTN - 0800 100 250)**	

Advocacy and Legal Advice Centre of the Ghana Integrity Initiative complements the efforts of the Investigative institutions. It provides free, confidential and professional legal advice and assistance to victims and witnesses of corruption. Its main objectives are to:

1. Empower citizens and corporate bodies to make and pursue corruption related complaints.
2. Undertake advocacy for broader structural and institutional reforms with the view of minimizing corruption in Ghana.
3. To complement the anti-corruption work of public institutions including the Commission of Human Rights and Administrative Justice (CHRAJ), Serious Fraud Office (SFO), Legal Aid Scheme and the Attorney General's (AG's) Department.
4. To build synergies with civil society with similar objectives to broaden the frontiers of a just, fair and caring society in Ghana.
5. To educate the people on corruption related issues

SERVICES OFFERED BY ALAC
The ALAC offers the following services free of charge to its complainants:
1. Consultation with a trained legal professional
2. Case receipt and preparation
3. Referrals to Anti-Corruption Agencies for investigations and redress of corruption
4. Toll-free hotline, walk-ins, email, WhatsApp and postal complaint submission

ALAC is accessible to all persons in Ghana including corporate bodies. However, emphasis is given to indigent or the poor and the vulnerable who otherwise may find it difficult to access justice. Furthermore, the ALAC seeks to particularly support individuals who are empowered and are seeking to assert their rights.

The ALAC deals with all types of reported instances of corrupt behavior; from small-scale to large-scale in service delivery. Cases may come from across sectors such as health, education, mining, business and governance from anywhere in Ghana.
Services NOT provided by the ALAC:

1. The ALAC does not have the power to pronounce judgments. As a matter of law and practice, it is the judiciary that has this power. The centre can only, based on the evidence presented, counsel victims, refer cases to the appropriate authorities, monitor the solution, prepare periodic reports, and publicize monitored cases;
2. The Centre exposes cases of corruption only to advocate for their solution, without campaigning against persons or institutions;
3. The Centre does not represent victims of corruption in court;
4. The Centre does not investigate reported cases;
5. The Centre does not publicize cases of corruption UNLESS it has sought explicit prior consent of the parties involved in the matter.
6. Though the ALAC takes anonymous complaints; it cannot pursue such complaints"

HOW TO CONTACT ALAC

• Head office is located within the Ghana Integrity Initiative in Accra with three regional desks in Kumasi, Ho & Tamale

• The ALAC can be contacted via a number of different ways:
1. Toll free lines: Vodafone 0800 100 25 and Airtel/Tigo 0800 100 250 and MTN 0800 100 250
2. Office landline: 0302 760 884 (Kumasi Office: 0509560507, Tamale Office: 0509560508 and HO Office: 0509560509)
3. Post: Advocacy & Legal Advice Centre, PMB CT 317, Cantonments, Accra
4. Email: alac@tighana.org
5. WhatsApp line: 0577665295

EYE ON CORRUPTION APP

• What is Eye on Corruption (EoC)?
Eye on Corruption App is a mobile application which allows people to report/submit a corruption related complaint to the Ghana Integrity Initiative's Advocacy and Legal Advice Centre (ALAC).
Seeking redress to corruption related cases.

• **TARGET**

An APP to provide for the manner in which individuals may in the public interest disclose information that relates to unlawful or other illegal conduct or corrupt practices of others (source: Whistleblower's Act 720)

• **FEATURES**

SUMBIT A COMPLIANT
A user can report an Institutional or a General Complain

Call ALAC
A user will be able to call the Advocacy and Legal Advice Center right from the App.
Toll-free

Templates:
· Social Audit Reporting Form.
· Meeting Agenda for Oversight Groups.

FURTHER READING:

• UNICEF's Child-Friendly Climate Change Handbook.
• Ghana's National Climate Change Adaptation Strategy.

REPORT CORRUPTION
CALL ALAC
TOLL FREE NUMBERS

MTN — 0800 100 250

0800 100 25

0800 100 250

057 766 5295
WhatsApp

EYE ON CORRUPTION

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