

Special Session [International Human Rights Policy Session]

Human Rights and Corruption in the Context of Climate Finance

Oct 12, 2022 (Wed) 16:00-18:00

Organizers: Raoul Wallenberg Institute of Human Rights and Humanitarian Law(RWI),
Embassy of Sweden to the Republic of Korea

Background

Following the interesting discussions in previous years' International Human Rights Policy Sessions (IHRPS) at WHRCF on the nexus between human rights and corruption, the IHRPS 2022 zooms in on climate finance.

The transition to fossil free energy systems, and adaptation measures required to mitigate the risks that climate change already has brought with it, will be costly. Much of said adaptation will have to happen at the level of local governments.

The task of local governments to respond and adapt to climate change in a timely manner is highly challenging, both in terms of access to technology, methods, and execution, and given the urgency, to develop and implement mitigating measures. Compounding the challenge is that procedures for resourcing through the Green Climate Fund and other sources, are still in early days of roll-out and testing. Stakes are high both to protect the lives, safety, and livelihoods of the population, and to ensure that large amounts of funding is effectively and efficiently managed in local contexts under pressing circumstances.

The session will address the challenging nexus between climate finance and response, the implied risk of corruption, and the respect for and protection of human rights.



Objectives

1. Illustrate, with local examples, the importance of a holistic vision in resourcing local climate adaptation plans, balancing the urgency of protecting local populations, especially, those in the margins of political and social orders, and the need for transparency, integrity, impartiality, and accountability in financing, budgeting and operational execution.
2. Illustrate, with local examples, the importance of local budget management that is trustworthy and reliable, and guided by the commitments and principles of human rights, in order to make adaptation effective, and suitable for, all sectors of the local population.

Main agendas

1. The nexus between the urgency in climate crisis mitigation, protection and respect for the rights of individuals and populations, and the need for transparent and accountable e.g. effective and efficient funding and management.
2. The implications and benefits of human rights budgeting for an adequate, operational, and inclusive local adaptation to climate change.

