



# FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS INDEPENDENT INTEGRITY UNIT

## 1. WHAT IS THE INDEPENDENT INTEGRITY UNIT?

The Independent Integrity Unit (IIU) ensures that all staff, external stakeholders, implementing entities, and intermediaries adhere to the highest integrity standards.

IIU investigates allegations of fraud, corruption, misconduct, and other prohibited practices.

IIU also aims to prevent fraud, corruption and other prohibited practices by establishing integrity policies and guidelines and promoting awareness of the GCF's integrity standards with external stakeholders, implementing entities, intermediaries, and executing entities.

## 2. WHAT ARE PROHIBITED PRACTICES?

Prohibited Practices include corruption, fraud, coercion, collusion, obstruction, abuse, conflict of Interest, retaliation against whistleblowers and witnesses, money laundering, and terrorist financing.

## 3. WHAT IS CORRUPTION?

Corruption means the offering, giving, receiving, or soliciting, directly or indirectly, anything of value (including but not limited to gifts, gratuities, favors, invitations, and benefits of any kind) to influence improperly the actions of another party.

For example, increasing invoices amounts written out for the project by some percent, as a gift to public official for being allowed to supply a product or service.

## 4. WHAT IS FRAUD?

Fraud means any act or omission, including a misrepresentation, that knowingly or recklessly misleads, or attempts to mislead, a party to obtain a financial or other benefit, or to avoid an obligation.

For example, submitting forged documents for accreditation or funding proposals.

## 5. WHAT IS COLLUSION?

Collusion means an arrangement between two or more parties designed to achieve an improper purpose, including to improperly influence the actions of another party.

For example, an arrangement for price fixing or bid rigging.

## 6. WHAT IS COERCION?

Coercion means the impairing or harming, or threatening to impair or harm, directly or indirectly, any party or the property of the party to influence improperly the actions of a party.

For example, the improper use of economic / administrative power to alter, shape, or otherwise control the actions of another.



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### 7. WHAT IS OBSTRUCTION?

Obstruction includes (i) deliberately destroying, falsifying, altering, or concealing evidence material to an investigation; (ii) making false statements to investigators in order to materially impede an investigation; (iii) failing to comply with requests to provide information, documents or records in connection with a Fund investigation; (iv) threatening, harassing, or intimidating any party to prevent it from disclosing its knowledge of matters relevant to the investigation or from pursuing the investigation; or (v) materially impeding the Fund's contractual rights of audit or access to information.

For example, malicious destruction of data records.

### 8. WHAT IS ABUSE?

Abuse means theft, misappropriation, waste or improper use of property or assets related to Fund-related Activity, either committed intentionally or through reckless disregard.

For example, misappropriation of disbursed funds.

### 9. WHAT IS RETALIATION AGAINST WHISTLEBLOWERS OR WITNESSES?

Retaliation against whistleblowers or witnesses means any detrimental act, direct or indirect, recommended, threatened or taken against a whistleblower or witness, or person associated with a whistleblower or witness, in a manner material to a complaint because of the report or cooperation with a Fund investigation by the whistleblower or witness.

### 10. WHAT IS CONFLICT OF INTEREST?

Conflict of interest is any situation in which a party or any of its staff involved in the relevant decision making process has interests that could, or could be deemed to, improperly influence its performance of official duties or responsibilities, contractual obligations, or compliance with applicable laws and regulations. A conflict of interest may not, in all cases, in and of itself, constitute a Prohibited Practice.

For example, engaging a vendor that a staff has an interest in, and the interest is not declared.

### 11. WHAT IS MONEY LAUNDERING?

Money Laundering refers to: (i) the conversion or transfer of property, knowing that such property is derived from crime, for the purpose of concealing or disguising the illicit origin of the property or of assisting any person who is involved in the commission of the crime to evade the legal consequences of his or her actions; (ii) the concealment or disguise of the true nature, source, location, disposition, movement, rights with respect to, or ownership of property, knowing such property is derived from crime, or; (iii) the acquisition, possession or use of property, knowing at the time of receipt that such property was derived from a criminal offence.

### 12. WHAT IS TERRORIST FINANCING?

Terrorist Financing or Financing of Terrorism is defined as the commission of any offence as set out in Article 2 of the International Convention for the Suppression of the Financing of Terrorism.



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### 13. HOW TO MAKE A REPORT TO THE IIU?

If you witness or suspect fraud, corruption, misconduct, or other prohibited practices connected to the Fund's staff, external stakeholders, implementing entities or intermediaries, please immediately contact the Independent Integrity Unit via any of the channels below:

- Telephone: +82.32.458.6155
- Email: [integrity@gcfund.org](mailto:integrity@gcfund.org)
- Mail: Head of the Independent Integrity Unit  
Green Climate Fund  
Songdo Business District  
175 Art center-daero  
Yeonsu-gu, Incheon 22004  
Republic of Korea

### 14. WHAT HAPPENS AFTER I MAKE A REPORT?

The IIU will immediately register the report. The information will be analysed and assessed. If your report is outside of the IIU mandate, then the IIU will refer the matter to the appropriate body. Where the allegations meet the IIU's assessment criteria, then the IIU will conduct a full investigation. The results of the investigation will be reported to the appropriate body of the Fund.

### 15. HOW DOES THE IIU PROTECT WHISTLEBLOWERS AND WITNESSES?

The IIU guarantees the confidentiality of the identities of whistleblowers and witnesses.

Retaliation of whistleblowers and witnesses is a prohibited practice. Retaliation against a person who makes a report is not tolerated. Please inform the IIU if you experience any form of retaliation.

### 16. WHO IS INFORMED ABOUT THE REPORT?

The IIU respects the confidentiality of the information provided. During the course of the investigation, details of the report will be shared with identified witnesses and the subject. However, no details about the author of the report will be provided.

The results of investigations will be published in periodic reports, but the identity of the parties involved in investigations will be kept confidential.

Please inform the IIU if you have any concerns about sharing details of the report provided.

### 17. ARE THERE ANY REWARDS FOR MAKING A REPORT?

The Fund does not offer monetary or any other forms of reward for whistleblowers and witnesses.

### 18. WHERE CAN I GET MORE INFORMATION?

You can visit the GCF website and view the IIU section.