Coordinating Support to Countries to Access High Integrity Voluntary Carbon Markets

*Roundtable discussion hosted by Children’s Investment Fund Foundation, in collaboration with and the UN High Level Champions and Voluntary Carbon Markets Integrity Initiative*

**Time & Date:** 10:00-12:00 Saturday 12th November

**Location:** Novotel Sharm El Sheikh, Naama Bay

**RSVP:** By Friday 4th November (see logistics in Annex)

This roundtable will convene key actors from government, international organisations, private initiatives, and foundations to drive collaboration and coordination in support of host countries accessing high integrity voluntary carbon markets (VCMs). The discussion will spotlight the importance of effective capacity building and technical assistance, and identify needs and opportunities to strengthen the provision of coordinated support. Outcomes and next steps will be captured in a summary report.

**The opportunity and challenge**

Over the past two years, VCMs have grown to an annual market value of $2bn+. In parallel, there has been an explosion of efforts to help unlock and channel this finance into low- and middle-income countries, and facilitate end-to-end integrity, trust, and transparency in the market.

This meeting will hear from various actors operating in this space, including two such efforts:

1. **Africa Carbon Markets Initiative (ACMI)** – aims to develop a structured approach to address challenges hindering access to carbon markets within African countries, including limited technical capacity and funding resources.

2. **Voluntary Carbon Markets Integrity Initiative (VCMI)** – VCMI’s ‘Access Strategies’, delivered in partnership with UNDP and Climate Focus, has engaged with countries to identify opportunities for accessing direct investment into country-specific mitigation action, aligning voluntary carbon market finance flows with national climate policy and finance priorities.

This session will review early outputs and lessons from these and other efforts, and consider what support is required to deliver on effective access. **Outcomes from the session will be captured in a meeting summary report which will be shared with participants and made publicly available, to help strengthen coordination in the provision of country support to access high integrity VCMs.**

**Agenda:**

09:50-10:00 **ARRIVE**

10:00-10:10 **Welcome remarks and framing of session – Kate Hampton, CEO, Children’s Investment Fund Foundation**

*Opening remarks – Bogolo Kenewendo, UN Climate Change High-Level Champions’ Special Advisor, Africa Director*

10:10-10:50 **Understanding the state of play – moderated by Rachel Kyte, VCMI co-chair**

- Framing presentation/ interventions
- Facilitated discussion

10:50-11:00 **BREAK**

11:00-11:50 **Strengthening coordination for the road ahead – moderated by Tariye Gbadegesin, VCMI co-chair**

- Framing presentation/ interventions
- Facilitated discussion

11:50-12:00 **Capturing session outcomes and next steps – Rachel Kyte, Tariye Gbadegesin and Bogolo Kenewendo**
ANNEX

Logistics:

- The event will take place from **10:00-12:00 on Saturday 12th November** at **Novotel Sharm El Sheikh Hotel, Naama Bay**, Ph: 20-69-3600172. This is outside the blue zone.

- **RSVP by Friday 4th November** to TTetteh-Wright@ciff.org.

- This is a closed-door, invite-only roundtable discussion. The event will follow Chatham House Rule to increase openness of discussion.

- Space is limited and any requests for delegation or plus-ones must be made in advance.

- The event will take place in English.

- A light lunch will be available after the meeting.

- On the day, in case of any issues, please contact: Effie Bagui email: Ebaqui@ciff.org, +254 794 021193