

ANNEX 5: NARRATIVE PROGRESS REPORT**Six-Month and Annual Reporting**

version 50622

General information	
Name of the Organisation: Foundation for Security and Development in Africa (FOSDA)	Contract Ref. No.: 01/TA/
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1. What changes did you see in pro-poor government policies (in design, implementation or review)? How did such change come about and what is your interpretation of the changes?

Poverty remains visible deterrents of Ghana's economy especially in rural communities. There have however been some positive policy shifts towards addressing rural poverty in Ghana. Social amenities such as schools, markets and clinics are some of the noticeable landmarks of effective utilisation of the Highly Indebted Poor Country (HIPC) fund. Apart from the President's Special Initiative which targets specific regions and districts, government's policy of poverty alleviation has encouraged poor rural farmers to undertake income oriented agriculture such as production of exportable mangoes and cashew. These are noticeable in the Northern and Brong Ahafo Regions. The Free Compulsory Universal Basic Education (FCUBE) programme and the provision of meals in schools in poor communities are also some of the pro-poor-government policies which have been noticed over the year.

2. Collaboration and networking

2.1 Indicate changes or progress in your working relations with the Parliament, Government Services, MDBS Partners, Donors, NDPC, District level Authorities or Services etc.

FOSDA has been working with the Ghanaian Parliamentarians especially: (i) Select Committees of Interior and Defence (ii) Mines and Energy (iii) Communication. The level of consultation between FOSDA and the Select Committees has continued to grow in quality.

Government has responded positively to civil society's demand which was led by FOSDA to establish a Commission on Small Arms and Light Weapons (SALW). FOSDA has also been invited to sit as civil society representative.

Relationship with civil society and the District Assemblies has continued to improve. FOSDA has enjoyed collaboration and support from the Northern Regional Administration and the Yendi District Assembly by participating in Peace and Development Projects initiated by FOSDA. Last year the Yendi District Assembly's response to FOSDA's Ride for Peace Project in Yendi (report attached) was not only limited to moral support but also financial contribution was made.

2.2 How has collaboration been strengthened (i.e. joint campaigns, collaboration, networking) with other RAOs / CSOs / CBOs?

Collaboration among RAOs, CSOs and CBOs continues to grow from strength to strength. Joint campaigns especially on peace and small arms non-proliferation which were initiated by FOSDA had other CSOs such as CEDEP, Abantu, Oxfam and West Africa Media Foundation for Development in their implementation. The increase in collaboration can be attributed to the fact that RAOs have been brought closer together by common funding partners. Some of the RAOs received their grants from the same source and therefore are exposed to each other's programmes. This facilitates collaboration and support.

2.3 How has the credibility and legitimacy of RAOs changed in the eyes of GoG and the Ghana public? How did such change come about and what is your interpretation of the changes?

The policy of the Government of Ghana expects all CSOs are expected to submit audited financial report to the Registrar General's Department annually. This regulation has helped to improve the image of civil society groups and enhanced transparency and accountability.

3.1 Output ranking on research and advocacy products and/or services delivered;				
Please rank the outputs in order of relative success, according to your own appreciation and evaluative judgment				
#	Outputs presented in submitted Workplan	Target groups that received or used the output delivered	Documents describing output delivery	Attached Copy yes/no
1	Advocacy (i) Youth and Conflict Management	1. Youth and Opinion Leaders of the Yendi District 2. Students of second cycle schools in two (2) districts of the Northern Region namely; Tamale Metropolitan and Yendi District.	1. Reports on youth in second cycle schools in some parts of the Northern Region helped to establish Peace Clubs. FOSDA supported five (5) schools to set-up Peace Squares in which they planted commercial fruit trees, mainly mangoes. 2. In November 2005 FOSDA organised the second Ride for Peace in the Yendi District as a way of bringing the different factions in the Yendi conflict together in a demonstrable peace project.	A report is attached. Report has been produced and is also attached.
2	RESEARCH IN NORTHERN GHANA i) Vacant Skins ii) Women's Businesses	Research in Northern Ghana (i) Vacant skins and Northern Ghana Conflicts:- Research conducted, data compiled and. A draft partial report on vacant skins in Northern Ghana and Dagbon. has been produced and awaiting verification of data. This would be done through a workshop of experts on the Dagbon conflict. (ii) Women's businesses in Conflict:- Research conducted, data analysed and needs supplementary field work. Over 205 questionnaires were administered in three districts. Fifteen youth were trained as research assistants.	Skins or traditional authority in the Dagbon area has been in the centre of most of the conflicts in the Northern Region. Most of the skins are either contested or vacant this situation has continued to fuel the crises. Profiling and documenting vacant skins in the area would provide a road map to the resolution of the conflicts. Part of the G-RAP grant has been used to fund the project. Research outputs submitted in work plan were to conduct research on the impact of the Northern Ghana conflict on women's businesses. This was conducted and a partial report has been produced. It was however realised that the study needed detailed field work on data collection to enrich the document. It would therefore not be published until supplementary research is concluded.	A study of data collected so far is also attached A copy of data collected so far is also attached.
3	Staff Recruitment	Staff Employment:- The Tamale Office has been established, Project Co-ordinator and the Assistant employed and paid for by GRAP grant.	STAFF EMPLOYMENT:- Part of the G-RAP grant has been used to run the Tamale Office and also to pay the salaries of some members of staff.	Attached is a salary voucher since July 2005.
3.2 Please explain the basis of the ranking; what criteria were you using for the ranking?				
In this ranking, the highest score is (1) and the lowest (3). The main activities presented by FOSDA were in the area of advocacy, research and staff recruitment. So far, the activity that has made an impact based on expected outcomes are the advocacy programmes organised in the Northern Region. Advocacy was therefore ranked the highest on the scale followed by research.				

4. Organisation: evidence of significant progress / change / results in the following areas please refer to the self-assessment formats for more detail
4.1 Strategy, planning, decision making, knowledge management
4.2 Funding base development and financial management
4.3 Recruitment, development and retention of staff; HR planning; incentives
There is now a permanent Finance and Administration Officer in place. This has freed the Youth Programmes Coordinator who used to combine his official task with finance and administration.
4.3 Organisational structure, board, management team
4.4 Marketing, public relations, communication
There is an established website which is regularly updated. Number of visitors to the site is on the increase.
5. Grant and report related issues
5.1 Details of any notable challenges or unexpected developments encountered during the reporting period. Indicate the reason for such change and what impact this could have on the execution of your original Annual Workplan as attached to the Grant contract.
5.2 Please indicate any issues you wish to raise relating to the Grant or to G-RAP management, monitoring or financial procedures.
From the onset communication about process of disbursing the \$10,000 TA was not clear. Upon notification of the award of the grant, FOSDA sought the assistance of Senior Experten Service of Germany on Finance and Administration management to provide in-house capacity building training for eight weeks. Commitment to SES was made before FOSDA was informed that the training was going to be provided by an approved organisation in Ghana. The training with SES could not be terminated, therefore FOSDA pre-financed it. How would the \$10,000 be accessed?
5.3 Please indicate any aspects of this report which are confidential and should not be communicated beyond G-RAP without prior consent.
None