

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

version 50622

General information	
Name of the Organisation: CENTRE FOR POLICY ANALYSIS	Contract Ref. No.: 01/CORE/12/CEPA
Report Prepared by: GENEVIEVE EBA-POLLEY Signature:	Report Period: JAN-JUNE 2006 Report Date: JUNE 30 2006
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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?

Government failed to achieve revenue target for most of 2005 and consequently spending including in respect to poverty-related activities lagged behind. Furthermore, there are lags – sometimes considerable – between spending and impact. Geographical discrepancies persist vide debate over selection of Districts for the MCA. The evidence points to no significant change in government pro-poor policies in any of the three dimensions.

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2. Collaboration and networking

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

A component of CEPA's Work Programme is capacity building involving government agencies, civil society organisations and institutions. CEPA has been contributing to the work schedules of some of these institutions.

- CEPA is facilitating the 2006 survey on Monitoring the Paris Declaration on Aid Effectiveness. A dialogue workshop between the Government of Ghana and her Development Partners was organised in June 2006.
- Macroeconomic Modelling and Public Accounts Management – CEPA organised a one-week training programme for Parliamentarians from the Policy Analysis and Research Project of the Nigerian Parliament (a sister ACBF-funded project) and Members of Parliament from Ghana. Presenters included the Accountant-General, the Auditor-General and the Bank of Ghana. Participants included staff from the Ministry of Finance and Economic Planning, and other research and advocacy organisations. March 2006.
- CEPA was invited by the Policy Analysis and Research Project of the Nigerian Parliament to run a three-day training programme in Nigeria for Members of Parliament on Public Budget Analysis, Budget Monitoring and Expenditure Tracking. June 2006.
- CEPA in collaboration with Sigma-One and the USAID organised a half-day workshop on the Political Economy of Fuel Subsidies in Ghana (1990 – 2005). Participants included the Executive Director and staff of the National Petroleum Authority, The Ministry of Finance and Economic Planning, Bank of Ghana, Development Partners and research and advocacy organisations. February 2006.
- CGE Modelling – CEPA is working with the Ghana Statistical Service, World Bank, and the Department of Economics of the University of Ghana to construct a Social Accounting Matrix (SAM) for Ghana.
- Addressing Feminised Poverty – CEPA is assisting the Ministry of Women and Children's Affairs and the NDPC to draw up a project document for the implementation of intervention programmes to address feminised poverty in five districts in Ghana.
- Community Based Monitoring Systems (CBMS) – A project sponsored by the IDRC and commenced 3 years ago, CEPA has been working with the Dangme West District Assembly to develop the CBMS. This project was brought to a conclusion with a Stakeholders' Workshop held in Dodowa. Participants included the District Chief Executive, staff and members of the District Assembly and opinion groups within the District. March 2006.
- OECD/IFAD support for Agriculture and Agricultural Policy - CEPA has been invited to supervise and advise on the methodology for work to be done by staff of the Ministry of Food and Agriculture on *Agricultural Sector Performance and Modernization of the Agricultural Sector*. March 2006.

2.2 How has collaboration been strengthened (i.e. joint campaigns, collaboration, networking) with other RAOs / CSOs / CBOs?	
<p>CEPA is a research and policy analysis institution and networking and collaborating with other institutions is important. Collaboration has been strengthened through workshops, presentation of papers at workshops and seminars and membership on boards.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Districts Programme – A G-RAP supported project, CEPA collaborated with the Ghana Statistical Service, the University of Ghana and the University of Development Studies in the North in reviewing the survey instrument. The Ghana Statistical Service was invited to hold a Training of Trainers’ Workshop on demarcating households for the survey. • Gender and Economic Growth Project – a G-RAP funded project, CEPA is collaborating with the Ghana Statistical Service, National Development Planning Commission and Ministry of Women and Children’s Affairs in identifying issues of concern and selecting districts for the survey. • Review and Analysis of Government Economic Policy for 2006 – This is CEPA’s review of the Budget for year 2006. At a half-day workshop, CEPA presented its analysis to participants from the Bank of Ghana, Ministry of Finance and Economic Planning, students from the University of Ghana and Ashesi University, Ghana Statistical Service, NDPC, academia, and other RAOs, CSOs and CBOs. • Trade Facilitation and Ghanaian Competitiveness – CEPA is collaborating with the CEPS, GIS, Freight Forwarding Companies and the private sector to put together recommendations to the Ministry of Trade and Industry on trade facilitation. At a workshop held in January 2006, the recommendations from the first workshop held in October 2005 were discussed and reviewed. This is currently being edited for presentation to the Ministry of Trade and Industry. • CEPA has often presented keynote addresses at workshops and seminars organised by other institutions and these include the Ghana Shippers’ Council; The Ghana Statistical Service and the National Development Planning Commission. • CEPA’s professional research staff are members of boards including the National Investment Bank, Ghana Commercial Bank, Taysec, Action Aid International (Ghana), Volta River Authority and National Board of Small Scale Industries. 	
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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?	
<p>The credibility and legitimacy of RAOs has changed for the better. For CEPA, significant improvement is seen in the level of participation and collaboration with, for example, the Auditor-General’s Department, Controller and Accountant-General’s Department, Ministry of Finance and Economic Planning, Bank of Ghana – improvements in the capacity of state machinery (itself not unrelated to CEPA’s capacity building programme).</p>	

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	Monitoring the Paris Declaration on Aid Effectiveness	Government of Ghana and Development Partners	Working Paper	Yes
2	Macroeconomic Modelling and Public Accounts Management	Members of Parliament from Nigeria and Ghana, Auditor-General's Department, Accountant-General's Department, Bank of Ghana, Ministry of Finance and Economic Planning	The programme of activities and a sample of documents presented at the training workshop.	Yes
3	Review and Analysis of Government Economic Policy for 2006	MDAs, Development Partners, RAOs, CSO, Private Sector, decision and policy makers	Selected Economic Issues No. 12	Yes
4	Community Based Monitoring Systems (CBMS)	District Chief Executive, Members of the District Assembly, Staff of the District Assemble, Opinion Groups within the District.	Technical Report	Yes
5	OECD/IFAD support for Agriculture and Agricultural Policy	Ministry of Food and Agriculture and Development Partners	Working Paper	Yes
3.2 Please explain the basis of the ranking; what criteria were you using for the ranking?				
CEPA's objectives include impacting on policy and decision making and building capacity. The ranking is therefore based on the direct impact the research activity has on policy and decision making related to economic good governance.				
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<p>4. Organisation: evidence of <u>significant</u> progress / change / results in the following areas please refer to the self-assessment formats for more detail</p>
<p>4.1 Strategy, planning, decision making, knowledge management</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council and the Management Committee are continuing in discussions and preparations for submitting a project proposal for Phase III funding from ACBF (CEPA's major sponsors). • CEPA made use of G-RAP's institutional capacity building grant. SNV run an organisational assessment of the Centre and findings are yet to be discussed. It is expected that issues raised will help improve processes and systems at the Centre. • Staff participated in filling in the reassessment forms from G-RAP for the second year of funding. CEPA's own analysis of results from these forms is helping in discussions to restructure the Centre especially in preparation for the third phase of funding from ACBF.
<p>4.2 Funding base development and financial management</p> <p>CEPA continues to bid for projects that fall within its mandate as part of its strategy to raise resources to build up an endowment fund – a key component of its exit strategy. G-RAP funding has strengthened core funding for CEPA. ACBF provides 50% core funding for CEPA. This means CEPA has had to raise the other 50% of funding to enable it fully run research activities and meet its overheads. However, G-RAP's recent letter informing CEPA that it is permitted to use a portion of core funding for overheads will ease the pressure on CEPA's resources.</p>
<p>4.3 Recruitment, development and retention of staff; HR planning; incentives</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The SNV-G-RAP organisational assessment is to help CEPA thoroughly review issues regarding its human resource. • A member of staff has been sponsored by the Centre to attend a training programme on Monitoring and Evaluation in Development. • Career progression is being reviewed as a strategy for staff retention in preparation for CEPA III.
<p>4.3 Organisational structure, board, management team</p> <p>At the apex of the organisational structure is the CEPA Council. The terms of reference for Council includes setting broad policy guidelines for CEPA's operations, approve CEPA's annual work programme, budget and audited accounts. This is followed by the Programmes and Management Committees. The Programmes Committee is made up of the Executive Director as Chair and all Research Staff. The Programmes Committee is charged with the responsibility of developing and reviewing the work programme. The Management Committee is made up of the Executive Director as Chair, Research Fellows and the Finance Officer. The Management Committee is charged with the implementation of the work programme and administrative issues.</p>
<p>4.4 Marketing, public relations, communication</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A new feature of CEPA's work programme is the use of validation workshops for stakeholders to disseminate research findings. These workshops allow for candid discussions on the research activity and reports. They also provide an acid test of relevance and potential impact. • CEPA carries out a lot of research which does not get the necessary exposure. The Selected Issues series is a conduit for publishing these research findings. • The importance of publishing popular versions of research reports is being stressed. • Finally, increasingly CEPA's research findings are disseminated through its website.
<p style="text-align: right;">We authorise G-RAP to post this information on its website <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>

<p>5. Grant and report related issues</p>
<p>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.</p> <p>The Research Fellow responsible for the Districts Programme tendered in her resignation at the end of May. She leaves at the end of August 2006. She continues to work on the project. A contingency plan has been put in place to minimise disruption on account of her departure.</p>
<p>5.2 Please indicate any issues you wish to raise relating to the Grant or to G-RAP management, monitoring or financial procedures.</p>

A major issue that keeps revisiting RAOs is the question of an exit strategy from donor funding. Discussions have indicated that G-RAP would be facilitating a workshop on this issue. CEPA wishes to indicate its interest in such a workshop. CEPA has a strategy which is being revisited by its Board.

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5.3 Please indicate any aspects of this report which are confidential and should not be communicated beyond G-RAP without prior consent.

Where negotiations and discussions are still underway, it would be appreciated if this is not communicated on the website.