

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/ Report Period: Jan 2006- June 2006
Report Prepared by: Abubakari Yussif Signature:	Report Date: 4 th July 2006
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<p>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?</p> <p>The ability of the government of Ghana to access the Millennium Challenge Account (MCA) is an important landmark in the history of the country. The sole intention of the project was investment which would yield substantial returns for the benefit of the entire nation. A 13-member board of the Millennium Development Authority (MiDA) has been inaugurated by the President of Ghana to oversee the smooth implementation of the compact which is a good step in the right direction. The compact would inject \$547 million into the economy for the transformation of rural agriculture. It is expected that within a period of five years, the project would lay the infrastructure for agricultural mechanism, encouragement of agricultural marketing, storage and best practices. The access of the MCA is as a result of good governance.</p> <p>Growth and Poverty Reduction Strategy (GPRS) II reflects a policy framework wherein government has clearly indicated areas of change. Recently the Parliament of Ghana approved an amount of ¢4.3 trillion to support good governance and civic responsibility, private sector competitiveness and human resource development. The proposed expenditure is grouped under the three thematic areas of the second phase of the Ghana Poverty Reduction strategy (GPRS II).</p>	
<p>2. Collaboration and networking</p> <p>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.</p>	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. 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 both in quality and frequency. 2. 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. 3. In August 2006 FOSDA will host Parliamentarians in a workshop to discuss cross- 	

border crime and regional integration.

4. The relationship between 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 their participation in Peace and Development Projects initiated by FOSDA.
5. FOSDA has been invited by the Nanumba District Assembly to work with them on peace building and post conflict reconstruction. To this end, FOSDA will work with the Assembly to develop a Youth Learning Centre. The project will commence in August 2006.
6. In January 2006 FOSDA participated in the ECOWAS summit in Niamey, Niger and organized a campaign against Small Arms and Light Weapons (SALW) and to promote the conversion of the ECOWAS Moratorium on SALW into a convention for the sub region.
7. FOSDA participated in the Independence Day march pass in Tamale to demonstrate to the people the dangers of Small Arms and Light Weapons. FOSDA also set up the Youth Peace Clubs in selected schools in Tamale and Yendi.
8. FOSDA undertook a trip to Burkina Faso to lobby the Bukinabe government to sign the ECOWAS convention of Small Arms.
9. FOSDA participated in the United Nations Conferences to review progress made in the implementation of the UN Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms In All Its Aspects held in June 2006.

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 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 others programmes. This facilitates collaboration and support. For instance,

1. FOSDA joined ABANTU for Development to celebrate the international Women's Day 2006.
2. In March 2006 FOSDA worked with the Self Help Initiative for Sustainable Development (SHIFSD) to undertake a Needs Assessment of the Liberian refugees in Budumburam. SHIFSD is a Gomoa Budumburam Refugee Camp-based NGO that works closely with FOSDA and ABANTU
3. FOSDA also organised a roundtable discussion on Voluntary Repatriation of Liberian refugees following the return to democratic rule in that country. The roundtable discussion was the result of a study that FOSDA conducted in the camp. Participants to the discussion included; ActionAid-Ghana, Ghana Refugee Board, SHIFSD, Liberian refugee, and the UNHCR. The meeting took place in June 2006 at Novotel hotel, Accra.

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 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.

The government of Ghana now appreciates the contributions of CSOs as complementary to her development agenda, unlike in the past where the general perception was that of competitors.

The influence of CSOs in providing solutions to the social needs of communities in relation to suggesting policy alternatives to government and the public has helped boost the credibility of CSOs in the eyes of the general public.

Most RAOs have conformed and operated within the limits and laws of the land which has enhanced a very good relationship with the government and the public.

The implication of such cordial relationship between the GoG, public and RAOs confirms the acceptance of CSOs as potential and necessary partners in the development process of the country.

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	Staff Recruitment	<p>1. FOSDA has engaged the services of a Research and Events Officer. His duties include organising and coordinating workshops and seminars. This has helped FOSDA to coordinate and events and conclude them on time.</p> <p>2. A research assistant has also been contracted to update records on media reportage on small arms news items in the Ghanaian news papers.</p>	<p>The TOR of the officer is available on request</p> <p>The TOR of the officer is available on request</p>	<p>TOR and appointment letter available on request</p> <p>TOR and appointment letter available on request</p>
2	INSTITUTIONAL CAPACITY BUILDING	<p>3.The Youth Project Coordinator received training on Rights-Based Approach to Development which was organised by Ark Foundation</p>	<p>The course was intended to sharpen the ability of the officer understand and integrate human rights in his work. This is particularly relevant for FOSDA's programmes in the northern region. His report after the course also indicates the appropriateness of the course.</p>	<p>Report available on request</p>

3.2 Please explain the basis of the ranking; what criteria were you using for the ranking?

In this ranking, the highest score is one (1) and the lowest is three (3). The first half of the year saw an increase in the staff delivery capacity based on the fact that two more relevant personnel were recruited. The activity of recruitment is consistent with work plan prepared for the year. Even though research and advocacy are the main programmes planned for the year, they were planned to be implemented during the second half of the year. It is therefore envisaged that the recruitment will have a positive impact on the work of FOSDA by the end of the year.

4. Organisation: evidence of significant progress / change / results in the following areas

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

The Youth Programmes Coordinator was sponsored to undertake Human Rights Based Approach to Development Training Program 2006 for CSOs, Development Practitioners, Human Rights and Gender Advocates organised by the ARK FOUNDATION

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.

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

None