



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

Version 50622

General information	
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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?

GPRS II and the President Special Initiative projects have been basically geared towards the rural sectors of the country. These programs have specifically been designed to assist in stabilising and expanding the rural economy which invariably produces a greater percentage of agricultural produce both for local consumptions and for exports. The programs have been made possible with multiple donor support. Some level of pressure and sustained engagement of research and advocacy NGOs has also contributed to the government paying attention to pro-poor program and policy, formulation, design and implementation as well as programs for marginalised people. Some donors specifically require the inclusion of pro-poor policies in government programs that are donor driven. The Millennium Challenge Account (MCA) program which is in a process of taking off is another typical example of pro-poor programs which NGOs have provided inputs and targets increased productivity for poverty reduction.

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Yes

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.

The Center has intensified its activities to help build the capacity of Parliament in general with emphasis on building the capacity of the technical departments under the program *Strengthening Parliamentary Processes in Ghana*. The program has already begun to yield positive results and is reflected in the expansion and quality of the services provided by the parliamentary departments like the Research Department and Public Affairs to the Members of Parliament (MPs) and the institution of Parliament. This program has also enjoyed the collaboration and enthusiastic support of the M Ps, who have benefited from activities which have exposed them to parliamentary practices in mature democracies like that of the United Kingdom.

The Center has enjoyed positive relations with donors, particularly USAID, G-RAP and FNF. This is due partly to the fact that CDD-Ghana has been able to ensure that its programs are executed in accordance with obligations contracted with donors and achieve positive impact on beneficiaries. Relationship with state and governmental agencies has been very good. This is reflected in the solicitation of inputs from CDD-Ghana by Government, MMDAs(e.g., Disability Act 2006 (Act 715) and Whistleblowers Act 2006 (Right to Information Bill, NGO/Trust Bill and the Domestic Violent Bill) The Center has also hosted MMDA programs such as workshops and seminars on the National Identification System and Non-Custodial Sentencing. The Center was also consulted to undertake a joint evaluation of the MDDBS with the Overseas Development Institute (ODI)

CDD-Ghana has held joint programs to explore ways of deepening decentralization with staff of the District Assemblies, the National Association of Local Government (NALAG), the Parliamentary Committee on Local Government and Rural Development and the Committee on Social Welfare. In October 2006 the Center conducted a dissemination workshop in collaboration with Cape Coast Municipal Authority on *Enhancing Revenue Mobilisation at the Metropolitan /Municipal/District Assembly Level*. CDD-Ghana has also been invited by many Government Organizations (e.g. NDPC, National African Peer Review Council, Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Women and Children's Affairs, Ministry of Manpower, Youth and Employment, etc) to participate in many important discussions of sector issues. The Center has always been represented by a strong technical team in these meetings and made substantial submissions.

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

Collaborations have been strengthened through the formation of informal networks of NGOs engaged in or focused on similar issues. The Center had collaborated with IBIS in the preparations to monitor the local level elections held in September 2006. CDD-Ghana and IBIS have also initiated a process to revive the Local Government Network, a network of organizations that are involved in decentralization programs. Though it is still a work in progress, the network has produced a draft protocol for review and been able to present a position paper on the decentralization review process to a team of consultants hired by the Ministry of Local Government, Rural Development and the Environment to review government decentralization policies. CDD-Ghana also collaborated closely with the Ghana Federation for the Disabled (GFD) to push for the passage of the Disability Act 2006 (Act 715). Currently, the Center has been engaging the GFD to conduct public education programs on the implementation of Act 715. Our involvement with RAVI has also afforded the Center an opportunity to support and collaborate further with the GFD and other NGOs and CBOs like Action for Disability and Development (ADD) and the Center for the Development of People (CEDEP). G-RAP has made possible, formal networking of RAOs and fostered the ability of RAOs to get involved in each other's activities. There have been joint programs organized between the Center and the Commission on Human Rights and Administrative Justice (CHRAJ) aimed at introducing Non-custodial sentencing into the Ghanaian judicial system. This program has drawn active support from the Ministry of Justice and the Attorney General and the Ministry of the Interior both of whom are part of a working group of all actors in the criminal justice system reviewing existing NCS laws which could be immediately implemented. CDD-Ghana collaborated with Women in Law and Development in Africa (WiLDAF) to conduct a seminar on "The Role of Women in the National Reconciliation Process" with funding from ICTJ, USA. Further, the Center active involvement with the Ghana Anti-Corruption Coalition continues to provide a strong platform for pursuing holistic approach to fighting corruption.

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 GOG tends to view most RAOs as baneful or useful according to the programs respective RAOs pursue. The AGs office, for instance, has responded poorly to RAO programs related to programs for anti-corruption and post-National Reconciliation Commission (NRC) institutional reforms. But the Ministry of Youth, Manpower and Employment, Ministry of Finance and NDPC as well as CHRAJ and SFO, EC, National Identification Authority, Parliament, Judiciary have favorable opinion of the Center's programs stemming mainly from the quality of the Center's technical contribution to deliberations and policy making (examples include the disability act).

The growing and significant involvement of some RAOs in the formulation, implementation and monitoring of government-initiated programs such as the MCA, GRPS, APRM, the national identification system etc is a recognition of the credibility and utility of RAOs/CSOs/CBOs. It also confers some level of legitimacy to RAOs/NGOs/CBOs.

The public generally has a credible opinion on RAOs because they consider the RAOs as watchdogs through which the reality of good governance and democracy can be realized. The Center for example is frequently asked by the media to comment on varied governance issues with members of staff appearing on many radio and television program on public affairs. Listeners, viewers and contributors to such programs have largely expressed their appreciation for the explanations, insights and information provided by RAO representatives.

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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	Fostering Pro-Human Rights Culture – Introduction of Non-custodial sentencing to Ghana's Judicial System	Ministry of Justice and Attorney General, Ministry of the Interior, Prison Services, MPs/Assemblymen/women, CHRAJ, Human Right/Law Professionals, academia, CHRI, Legal Aid Scheme, Department of Social Welfare, Judiciary, Ghana Police Service, Ghana Bar Association .	Report of the program compiled by a rapportuer, Workshop Communiqué and Plan of Action	Yes
2	Fostering Pro-Human Rights Culture - Sensitization Workshop on the Inclusion of the Disabled in Local Level Elections	Ghana Federation of the Disabled, Electoral Commission, National Commission for Civic Education.	Concept Paper and rapportuer's report	Will be forwarded later
3	Democratic Development – Parliamentary Support Program – Video conferencing with House of Commons	Members of Parliament and Support staff	Program Report	Yes
4	Democratic Development – Annual Democracy and Governance Lecture, Kronti ne Akwamu – Reflections on the Effectiveness of the Parliament of the Fourth Republic of Ghana	- MPs, Academia, university students, General public, Media	Paper for Presentation	Yes
5	Fostering Pro-Human Rights Culture – Dissemination workshop on NRC victims survey report	Government Institutions, academia, other NGOs, Media	Publication	yes
	Publications – Democracy Watch, Critical Perspective	Government Institutions, academia, other NGOs, Media	Publications	yes
3.2 Please explain the basis of the ranking; what criteria were you using for the ranking? Attendance, Media coverage and Public Reaction				
The ranking is based on attendance by the targeted groups, media coverage and public reactions				
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4. Organisation: evidence of <u>significant</u> 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	
Planning of programs and detailed program activities is comprehensive but there may be isolated cases where planning is done on ad hoc basis because such collaborative programs come in unexpectedly. Decision making basically rests with the Executive Committee. Knowledge management has not officially been formalized – more on person to person level.	
4.2 Funding base development and financial management	
Funding base is typically through solicitation with proposals. No other means has been developed to raise funds at the moment. A business plan in working progress addresses some of the funding generating issues. Administrative and financial management are effective and other accounting procedures are strictly adhered to in a more transparent manner.	
4.3 Recruitment, development and retention of staff; HR planning; incentives	
Recruitment of staff is slow but competitive. The retention rate is very high. Staff development is through external short programs organized by other organizations. In addition, staff, especially new recruits, are trained sufficiently to undertake their specific responsibilities. CDD-Ghana incentives can be very attractive or less attractive depending on where the comparison is made.	
4.3 Organisational structure, board, management team	
The Board of Governors play an overall supervisory role and are at the top of the organizational structure. Next to the Board is the Executive Committee made up of three officials who are also the final decision makers in any major activity. Daily activities of CDD-Ghana are supervised by the Executive Director and his associate and also the treasurer. Three sectional heads also assist in the administration of the Center through supervisory roles.	
4.4 Marketing, public relations, communication	
The Center does not embark on any specific marketing strategy. Generally, information on CDD-Ghana is shared with other organizations through publications particularly the annual reports. Officially there is no Public Relation person. Most of the PRs are done by the Executive Director, a board member or the Head of Programs. The Center is currently trying to recruit a Business Manager. Generally, relationship with the public especially the media has been very cordial.	
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<input type="checkbox"/>	

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.	
Scheduling of programs and implementation has been efficient	
5.2 Please indicate any issues you wish to raise relating to the Grant or to G-RAP management, monitoring or financial procedures.	
PMT should be given the flexibility of coming up with proposals on programs which they deem necessary but are overlooked/not being tackled by any RAO. Such programs could be assigned to some RAOs to implement.	
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Yes	
<input type="checkbox"/>	

5.3 Please indicate any aspects of this report which are confidential and should not be communicated beyond G-RAP without prior consent.	
[Authorization received by PMT on 4/12/07 to share all contents]	