

ANNEX 5: NARRATIVE PROGRESS REPORT

Version 50622

General information	
Name of the Organisation: Foundation for Security and Development in Africa (FOSDA)	Contract Ref. No.: 02/core/21/FOSDA
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Signature:	Report Date:
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Signature:	
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><i>The government school feeding programme was a unique programme that aimed at ensuring that children of school going-age remained in school. It has increased enrolment, attendance and retention, thus, leading to improved retention of girls in school. The successful execution of the programme would also contribute to the attainment of the Millennium Development Goals in the areas of eradicating extreme poverty, achieving universal basic education and reducing child morbidity rates by ensuring that the children remain healthy.</i></p> <p><i>The school feeding programme has also created employment avenues for those who would cook the food, those would serve as well as ensure a ready market for farmers, thus reducing the incidence of post harvest losses.</i></p> <p><i>The National Youth Employment Programme (NYEP) launched by the government aims to create jobs for 155,319 unemployed and under employed youth from all the 138 districts in the country. The programme is designed to open employment opportunities in education, agric business, community protection, rural health, waste and sanitation, internship, trade and vocation as well as Information Communication Technology.</i></p> <p><i>It focuses on empowering and equipping the youth with technological know-how, industrial skills, appropriate work ethics and individual initiative to enhance their productivity. The NYEP is already operational and has given employment to 33,945 people, representing 22 percent of the estimated target. Of this, 20,021 are into community education, serving as teacher assistants; 12,683 are engaged in agric business with 1,241 on internship.</i></p> <p><i>FOSDA's programme on youth empowerment and conflict reduction is tailored to ensure the success of this programme especially in the Northern Region. For two years, the G-RAP grant</i></p>	

has been used to encourage the youth to establish functional and productive groups such as the Youth Peace Clubs.

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.

In 2006 FOSDA organised a workshop for parliamentarians on theme: Consolidating Parliamentary Democracy through Capacity Building and Inter-Party Dialogue. In keeping with its focus on the promotion of peace, security and good governance in Africa, FOSDA organised this two-day workshop on the topic: "The Extraction Industry and Border Management: The Role of Parliament" for three Parliamentary Committees of the National Parliament of Ghana.

The relationship between FOSDA and the District Assemblies has continued to improve. FOSDA has always enjoyed collaboration with and support from the Northern Regional Administration and the Yendi District Assembly by their participation in peace and development projects initiated by FOSDA.

FOSDA has been invited by the Bimbilla 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. FOSDA has also structured a programme on improving learning and reading in the Bimbilla North District.

On our weekly radio programme aired on Savanna Radio in Tamale dubbed Reflection on Peace Series we bring together resource persons from departments and agencies such as the Centre for National Culture, Ministry of Health, Drama Groups Association, Ghana Water Company and the National Youth Council to discuss matters relating to their areas of operation that has the potential of sparking conflicts.

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

In November 2006 FOSDA in partnership with the Bangumanga Integrated Rural Development Society (BIRDS) organised the Ride for Peace in Yendi which brought together all the area councils in the Yendi area to take part in a bicycle riding competition to foster unity.

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 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 criticisms.

The policy of the government of Ghana expects all CSOs to submit audited financial report to the registrar General department annually. This regulation has helped to improve the image of

civil society groups and enhanced transparency and accountability.

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 government and the public.

The implication of such cordial relationship between the GOG, public and the 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				
#	Outputs presented in submitted Workplan	Target groups that received or used the output delivered	Documents describing output delivery	Attached Copy yes/no
1	<i>Staff Allowances and Remuneration</i>	<i>The salaries of staff have been sustained</i>	<i>Pay slips of staff</i>	Available upon request
2	<i>Upgrade/acquire IT and Broadband internet facility</i>	<i>FOSDA now has a broadband internet facility which has facilitated the work of staff and makes communication between other organisations faster and easier.</i>	<i>Physical presence of equipment, Payment Vouchers and receipts</i>	Available upon request
3	<i>Engage the services of IT/Website manager for one year</i>	<i>FOSDA has engaged the services of a website manager to update the FOSDA website as when necessary. FOSDA's site is now active and is updated frequently.</i>	<i>Payment Vouchers and Receipts</i>	Available upon request
4	<i>Ride for Peace bicycle riding competition in the Yendi District</i>	<i>All six area councils under the Yendi District took part in the competition which is meant to foster unity among the ethnic groups and factions in the area. The participation of women has also increased.</i>	<i>Payment Vouchers and Receipts</i>	Available upon request
5	<i>Radio Discussion Programmes on Community Conflict management for development</i>	<i>The Programme is broadcast on Radio Savannah which covers the entire Northern Region and beyond. The discussions are centered on peace, conflict management and development</i>	<i>Payment Vouchers and Receipt</i>	Available upon request
6	<i>Transport (Fuel and Servicing)</i>	<i>Reliable means of transport especially to supervise and organise FOSDA programmes.</i>	<i>Payment Vouchers and Receipt</i>	Available upon request
3.2 Please explain the basis of the ranking; what criteria were you using for the ranking?				
The ranking has been done based on the impact of the activity on the work of FOSDA as an organisation and also in the communities which FOSDA operates to bring about peace and development.				

4. Organisation: evidence of <u>significant</u> progress / change / results in the following areas
4.1 Strategy, planning, decision making, knowledge management
<i>There is an improvement in management and delivering of planned activities. There is a comprehensive year planner which has the input of all staff. There is a regular monthly meeting. The website of FOSDA has also served as a source of communication to external interest groups.</i>
4.2 Funding base development and financial management
<i>FOSDA's funding base has been improved with Oxfam Great Britain promising to support its programmes in the Northern Region for the next three years. Also a detailed and user friendly financial management soft</i>
4.3 Recruitment, development and retention of staff; HR planning; incentives.
<i>Two additional staff recruited to enhance FOSDA's problems assume duty by 30th March 2007.</i>
4.4 Organisational structure, board, management team
<i>FOSDA had its board meeting on 29 December, 2006 where the board expressed their satisfaction with the management style of FOSDA</i>
4.5 Marketing, public relations, communication
<i>There is an established website which is regularly updated. Number of visitors to the site is on the increase.</i>
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.
<i>The delay in the release of funds is a major challenge which needs to be looked at. Most especially considering the deadline for the submission of reports when activities for the particular quarter are still in progress due to delay in the release of funds.</i>
5.2 Please indicate any issues you wish to raise relating to the Grant or to G-RAP management, monitoring or financial procedures.
<i>1. The requirement that a comprehensive budget that contains the activities of all projects of RAOs is an issue that needs to be addressed. In most instances budgets are projections for future programmes some are never funded therefore if such estimates are captured as incomes they present a false impression. 2. The Financial status report format where RAOs are required to report global income and expenditure should be looked at since other donors have different reporting periods.</i>
5.3 Please indicate any aspects of this report which are confidential and should not be communicated beyond G-RAP without prior consent.
<i>There is no part of this report that requires confidential treatment</i>