



NARRATIVE PROGRESS REPORT July-December 2006

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General information	
<p>Name of the Organisation: Institute for Democratic Governance</p> <p>Report Prepared and Submitted by: : Signature:</p>	<p>Contract Ref. No.: 01/Pro/30/IDEG</p> <p>Report Period: July-December 2006</p> <p>Report Date:</p> <p>Contact Tel. No.: 021-506466</p>
<p>Introductory note on the bi-annual narrative progress reporting</p> <p>We seek your information on progress in order to inform discussions between Grantee and PMT. We will also use the information for identifying useful capacity building activities for the RAO sector, as well as for reporting to the donors for accountability purposes.</p> <p>All boxes are self-expanding. The information could serve for G-RAP's public communications strategy, though we of course seek your consent for any public reference to your organization. Please note the ticking boxes at the right bottom side of each box!</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?

Adaptations seem to stem from economic, social and political policy reviews, which arose from the need to: a) prepare for the 2007 budget; and b) improve the governance of the country. Toward this end, government's budget process began much earlier in the year and involved the input from people at both national and local levels. Budget hearings and submissions from the localities are an example of how government sought to promote some form of fiscal decentralization, particularly as it relates to collating and channelling inputs. Also in the last half of 2006, government called for a review of the laws governing the country's decentralization process, in order to better inform the its improvement and translation into popular participation in the governance processes. Many of these policy adaptations were a result of more open and public policy dialogue at local, national, and international levels, in order to find more viable policy options.

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.

IDEG's mission is to generate knowledge and enhance the capacity of citizens to influence public policy choices, in order to consolidate democracy and good governance. Toward this end, IDEG has endeavoured to work with: Parliament, the Ministry of Finance and Economic Planning, development partners, district authorities

a) The Institute is conducting a **5-year study on Parliament** and held an internal review seminar on its initial report in July 2006. The reviewer was the former Speaker of Parliament Rt. Hon. Peter Ala Adjetey. The following stage of the study involved interviews with **Members of Parliament**, which were conducted with the support of the **Clerk of Parliament**.

b) IDEG held a **national conference on Civic Participation and the National Budget Process** in September 2006 in collaboration with **ACBF**, the **UNDP** and the **Ministry of Finance and Economic Planning (MOFEP)**. **IBIS** collaborated with the Institute in convening a dialogue, at the conference, on basic social service delivery between citizens in the northern regions and their local and national officials.

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

Collaboration has been strengthened by networking and advocacy campaigns for civic inclusion in the public policy making process, specifically the budget planning process. For example, collaboration through the Growth and Poverty Forum (GPF), the Governance Issues Forum (GIF), RAOs and other CSOs, the conference produced a set of proposals to MOFEP for consideration in the 2007 budget; the result of which led to sharpening the focus on and approach to developing district economies; a marked change from the historical tendency to concentrate heavily on macroeconomic policy making and development planning that seeks to strengthen the national economy.

Sections 2.3, 3, 4 and 5 are not shared