

GHANA RESEARCH & ADVOCACY PROGRAMME	
HALF -YEAR NARRATIVE REPORT July- December 2006	
Name of the Organisation:	Contract Ref. No.01/core/31/IEA
The Institute of Economic Affairs (IEA)	Report period: July-December 2006
Report Prepared by:	Report Date: January 8 2007
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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 change?</p>	
<p><u>1.1 NATIONAL YOUTH EMPLOYMENT PROGRAMME (NYEP)</u></p> <p>A major step in the direction of state leadership in reducing unemployment was taken in the period under review when the NYEP was initiated. This is a 2-billion cedi Programme designed to train the educated but unemployed youth to fill temporary labour shortages in critical sectors of the economy. It arose out of a labour survey initiated by the Statistical Service of Ghana.</p> <p>By far, the largest proportion of unemployed youth will be given training to fill teaching vacancies in Schools located in remote parts of the country. Other sectors where manpower shortages abound will also not be ignored.</p> <p>However, the NYEP is not intended to give permanent jobs. In its design, it is intended to give the youth regular income for a period within which they can acquire the skills and training for permanent jobs.</p>	
<p><u>1.2 SCHOOL DE-WORMING EXERCISE</u></p> <p>This Exercise was initiated in the period under review to rid children of Primary and Junior Secondary Schools in selected parts of the country of worm infestation.</p> <p>The Programme is under the joint sponsorship of UNICEF and the Government of Ghana, acting through the Ghana Education Service (GES). The actual implementation is carried out by the School Health Programme of the GES. So far, only selected Schools nationwide, in</p>	

especially the Accra Metropolis, have benefited.

The Programme began in 2006 when the Ghana Registered Nurses Association conducted a limited de-worming exercise in a few Schools as part of the Nurses Week Celebration in 2005. The Programme, though limited, was so successful that the Ghanaian Government and UNICEF decided to adopt and expand it in subsequent years.

2. Collaborating 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.

GENERAL - Our relationship with all three arms of State, Donors, MDBS Partners, the NDPC, District Level Authorities, the Electoral Commission, the National Commission on Civic Education, the Media and Civil Society continued in all its diverse aspects.

THE PRESIDENCY - Our association with the highest office of the land was a direct result of The IEA's ground-breaking West African Regional Programme of Political Parties (**WARPPP**). This was highlighted when the Vice-President of the Republic of Ghana pledged his personal support for WARPPP's causes and demonstrated this practically by delivering both keynote addresses during the inauguration of WARPPP and at its first Steering Committee Meeting

THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH / GHANA HEALTH SERVICE - The IEA renewed its partnership with the two bodies aforementioned. Formerly, our engagement with them was limited to invitations sent for them to attend our Policy Fora and Roundtable Discussions on matters affecting their spheres of operation. This was however taken a step further when The IEA was invited to be on the interview panel to select the next Director-General of the Ghana Health Service and the Deputy Director-General of same. This new level of collaboration with the MOH/GHS indicates their degree of appreciation for and confidence in our work. It also opens doors for us at these places insofar as the gathering of research material to enrich our work is concerned.

THE GHANA BROADCASTING CORPORATION - The State-owned broadcaster, the Ghana Broadcasting Corporation (GBC), formally wrote to The IEA's Management requesting that IEA Researchers feature on its policy discussion programmes to enrich their intellectual content. This shows GBC's confidence in The Institute's research products. Formerly, The Institute's erudite Researchers were invited to national networks- GBC included- The Institute's Researchers. But now, the top hierarchy of GBC has formally written to The Institute to ask for our institutional collaboration. An added advantage of this collaboration is that GBC will now unfailingly cover our Programmes nationwide and give our research products wider reach.

THE GHANA JOURNALISTS' ASSOCIATION - The Institute and the GJA embarked on a landmark collaborative effort to improve the

standards of reporting in a young democracy. A joint Workshop on Media Responsibility in Ghana brought together Media Practitioners and Representatives of Political Parties. They brainstormed on ways of achieving a more accountable media practice suited for Ghana's circumstances. The School of Communication Studies, University of Ghana, the Ghana Institute of Journalism and the National Media Commission actively participated in this historic collaborative effort.

THE MINISTRY OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT - During the period under review, The Institute was one of only two think tanks invited to serve on the Local Government Reference Group LGRG. The LGRG is an Advisory Group of influential stakeholders whose main aim is to advise the Minister of Local Government on local government reform and bills in that direction.

YOUTH GROUPS - The Youth were not left out. Formerly consigned to the fringes of activity, they become the main item on the agenda when The Institute organized an international Youth Conference on "The Youth and The Future of Multi-Party Democracy". Participants included Party Youth leader from tertiary institutions and Youth leaders from The Netherlands. The philosophy of the Conference was "to develop the youth for the future and not the future for the youth"

Furthermore, our engagement with the GPRS Process went a step further when The IEA was made a Member of the Working Group to evaluate the GPRS in the thematic areas of Production and Gainful Employment.

Finally, The Institute was nominated as a Member of the Ghana Statistical Service Steering Committee to conduct a census/survey of retail and wholesale trade.

2.2 How has collaboration been strengthened (i.e. joint campaigns, collaboration, networking) with other RAO's/ CSO's/ CBO's?

Sharing of information/ ideas/ systems with others RAO's

The IEA launched a Joint Campaign with NETRIGHT and the Caucus of Female Parliamentarians- to push for the participation of more women in the political decision-making process. This Campaign took the form of Workshops, follow-up Symposia and Advocacy and awareness-creation activities. The Institute is now working with these said groups to develop a Manual for the effective implementation of Women's empowerment. This Manual will be comprehensive enough to cover the scope of Affirmative Action and other remedial measures that the State, Political Parties and other institutions can use to ensure female empowerment.

2.3 How have the credibility and legitimacy of RAO's changed in the eyes of GOG and the Ghana public? How did such change come about and what is your interpretation of the change?

The credibility and legitimacy of RAO's continues to grow in the eyes of the GOG and the public because RAO's conduct groundbreaking research and make authoritative pronouncements on a wide range of issues. Our interpretation of the increased credibility is that our research is useful and our Research Products are reaching them. Secondly, Policy Makers have seen that our Policy Recommendations are good and they want to consult not only The IEA but other credible RAO's to get their input instead of unilaterally developing flawed policies and programmes. Examples of such RAO/Policy Maker engagement include The IEA's serving on the interview Panel of the MOH/GHS for the new Director-General and the Deputy Director-General.

3. Outputs in research and advocacy, products and/or services delivered

3.1. Output Presented in Submitted Work plan	Target Groups	Document	Copy
<p>3.1.1. Research Outputs GHANA POLICY JOURNAL- The IEA has launched a unique product for Policy makers and the Research Community which touches all aspects of the Ghanaian experience. Known as the Ghana Policy Journal, it is the only one in the RAO community in Ghana. It is a multi-disciplinary, internationally-refereed Journal with ten (10) Chapters covering a broad range of topics. Topics touched on in the Journal, authored by leading Scholars, include: -Trade Liberalization, Foreign Aid and Income Distribution of Households in Ghana - Using National Health Insurance Schemes to Finance Health Care in Ghana. -Time for Delivery of Judgments or Rulings by the Superior Courts of Ghana. -Death and Dying: The Implications of a Growing Funeral Industry in Ghana -A New Approach to Apprenticeship Training -The Determinants of Poverty of Poverty Among Fishmongers in James Town, Accra -An Investigation of Ghanaian JSS Mathematics Teachers Conceptions of Mathematics and its Teaching The uniqueness of the Journal is underscored by the fact that not even Ghana's Universities have such cross-cutting Journals</p>	<p>Policy makers, Members of Parliament, Government officials, Donors, academia, students, Political Parties, the media and the general public</p>	<p>Ghana Policy Journal</p>	<p>Yes</p>
<p>3.1.2. Personnel – As a result of core funding, The Institute has been able to recruit newly-qualified and seasoned Researchers and Administrative Staff. The Institute also has a new Director of Research whose mandate is to ensure that both the Governance and Economic Centers focus and produce, hitherto unresearched policy areas.</p>			<p>Yes</p>

<p>3.1.3. Policy Discussions / Conferences West African Regional Programme of Political Parties - Another successful epoch in the historic WARPPP initiative was attained with the inauguration of the Steering Committee of WARPPP. This Committee is made up of both the ruling and largest opposition Parties from each of the eight (8) member- countries of WARPPP. The main aim of the Steering Committee is to co-ordinate the activities of WARPPP in conjunction with the Secretariat, of which The IEA is the Covener-Coordinator. The first Steering Committee Meeting was to chart a path of economic growth, good governance and multi-Party democracy in West Africa.</p> <p>Dialogue Between Sierra Leonean Political Parties - During the period under review, The Institute convened a meeting of Sierra Leonean Political Parties-both Government and opposition- to network, dialogue and share best practices. The meeting led to a thawing of otherwise frosty relations and led politicians on both sides to discuss national issues in an apolitical manner to promote good governance.</p>	<p>The AU, ECOWAS, West African Politicians from eight countries, Members of Parliament and Civil Society.</p> <p>The AU, ECOWAS, West African Politicians from eight countries, Members of Parliament and Civil Society</p>		<p>Yes</p> <p>Yes</p>
<p>3.1.4. Institutional Capacity Building - The Institute is working closely with Management Consultants (Nkum and Associates) to identify and strengthen key areas within The Institute. Nkum and Associates consulted with all layers of the Administration in order to produce an Issue Paper that would chart the future organizational path of The Institute, taking into cognizance its previous strengths and weaknesses. The said Issue Paper emerged out of the Management Consultants' wide engagement with the Board, Management, Researchers and Staff of The Institute on the various organizational issues and challenges confronting them. The final Draft will come out in a few weeks, copies of which will be forwarded to G-RAP for their perusal</p>	<p>The IEA and its clientele</p>		<p>YES</p>
<p>3.1.5. Publications: A. a) Re-denomination Of The Cedi: A Suggestion To The Bank of Ghana b)Factors That Enabled Successful Economic Reforms and Recovery in Ghana c) Determinants of Economic Growth in Ghana d) Relevance of Economic and Social Policies Adopted by Dynamic Southeast Asian Countries Applicable to the Ghanaian and other African</p>	<p>Policymakers, Members of Parliament Government Officials, Donors, Academia, Students and the</p>	<p>IEA Monographs, Governance Newsletter, Legislative Alert</p>	<p>YES</p>

<p>Contexts e) Economic Freedom, Foreign Direct Investment and Economic Growth f) What Has Been The Impact of Foreign Direct Investment in Ghana? e) Wagner's Law and Causal Nexus Between Government Expenditure and Tax Receipts: An Empirical Study of Ghana f) Carrying Everybody Along in National Development: An Agenda for Reducing Disparity in Human Welfare g) Maximizing Ghana's Debt Relief: What Are the Policy Options?</p> <p>B. Ghana Policy Journal- A multi-disciplinary Public Policy Journal</p>	General Public	Newsletter and Occasional Papers	
<p>3.2 Please explain the basis of the ranking: What criteria are you using for the ranking?</p>			
<p>The ranking has been done based on its:</p> <p>(1) Research and Advocacy that generated high public interest and media comment and review and high participation by key policymakers and affected publics.</p> <p>(2) Outputs in which it excelled most during this period.</p>			
<p>4. Organization evidence of <u>significant</u> progress/ changed / results in the following areas:</p> <p>4.1 Strategy, planning, decision making, Knowledge Management. Generally speaking, our approach to management is more participatory – as we attempt to include more women to broaden the decision-making process. Gender issues are now cardinal. They are now mainstreamed and implemented in our programmes and recruitment policies. Of the 4- member Management Team, 3 are women. A female librarian has also been employed in the period under review. We are also in the process of recruiting a female Political Scientist. If all works well, she will take up office in July 2007.</p> <p>4.2 Funding base development and financial management The Institute has in place sound financial management structures and procedures. It continues however to improve and upgrade them as and when the need arises. Currently, the Accounts team is a new software provided by Softribe called Navision to ascertain whether the Software is suitable for our purposes. Fundraising Base Development - The Board has mandated the Administrator to be in charge of Fundraising activities. The IEA has received new funding from the Centre for International Private Enterprise. The funding will commence in January 2007.</p> <p>4.3 Recruitment, development of staff, HR planning; incentives. G-RAP Funding has made it possible to employ top-of-the-range Senior Researchers for our Economics Centre and competent supporting</p>			

research staff.

4.4 Organisational structure, Board, Management Team

There is raised awareness among Staff members of how organisational design helps improve upon the performance of organisations. Some training has been held on the Organogram of The Institute. The Institute continues to provide training to Staff members on the culture and policies of the Organisation. Again, Staff members continue to receive mentoring and training for Supervisors of each Centre/Unit.

4.5 Marketing, public relations, communication

We are aware too of the need for specific improvement on branding our internal and external marketing. We have thus started taking some pro-active steps. The first is our organization of quarterly Press Soirees and IEA Fairs to publicize our research, showcase our activities, and make it more readily available to our policy-consuming publics. The ICB process currently going on with The Institute will address issues of new marketing, public relations and communication strategies and how to improve these within The IEA.

5. Grant and report related issues

5.1 Lack of funding during this Quarter delayed several activities at The Institute. This affected our Work Plan to some extent

5.2 Please indicate any issues you wish to raise relating to the Grant or to G-RAP management, monitoring or financial procedures.

None

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

None