

CENTRE FOR SOCIAL POLICY STUDIES

Narrative Progress Report

Report period January to June 2007

Contract Ref. No. 02/PRO/14/CSPS **Organisation** CENTRE FOR SOCIAL POLICY STUDIES

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Please do not write in green coloured sections; refer to notes at last page for explanations

1. National pro-poor policies

What do you think were the most important changes in pro-poor government policies in the last six months? What were the main causes? What contribution did your organisation make to any of these changes?

Social Protection for the Vulnerable and Excluded

Gradually, Ghana is adhering to the tenets of GPRSII which made significant provision for the protection of the vulnerable and excluded. During the period under review, we observed that various efforts have been made in developing a National Social Protection Strategy to protect the poor in Ghana. The strategy, which made provisions for cash transfers and the Livelihood and empowerment programme, would soon be launched. In addition to the national social protection strategy, Ghana also passed the Domestic Violence Act 732 in 2007. This Act ultimately will protect women and children who are considered to be more vulnerable in society. The Centre for Social Policy Studies is collaborating with the Ministry of Manpower Youth and Employment in designing and disseminating the National Social Protection Strategy

The Government School Feeding Programme

The government school feeding programme has taken shape and has encouraged children of school going-age to remain in school. It has increased enrolment, attendance and retention, thus, leading to improved retention of girls in school. This programme is contributing to attaining the Millennium Development Goals in the areas of eradicating extreme poverty, achieving universal basic education and reducing child morbidity rates by promoting the health status of children. However, the management of this programme may jeopardise the good intentions. It would be prudent to allow for more community participation than relying on business-minded catering services to provide the food for the children. CSPS has been involved in research work to ascertain the early effects of the school feeding programme on basic school education in Ghana

2. Public image

How has the credibility and legitimacy of RAOs changed in the eyes of GoG and the Ghana public? What is your interpretation? Is there a reference to this evidence of change?

RAOs are becoming more focused with respect to poverty, rights and equality and this has drawn the attention of the public as well as government. In all RAOs have gained credibility and legitimacy through their level of influence in advocating for the poor and the vulnerable in society. The government of Ghana now appreciates the contributions of CSOs as complementary to her development agenda, unlike in the past where there was suspicion on both sides.. 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 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. Collaboration, coalitions and networking

Using the format below, list the most important organisations you collaborated with over the period, under each of the sectors listed below. For each organisation, give an indication of the issues or themes you worked on, its status and the outcomes.

	Organisation or coalition	Policy issue / theme / nature Starting / ongoing / ending	Outcome
Government - executive - judiciary - legislature	Ministry of Manpower Youth and Employment	Design and dissemination of NSPS	NSPS designed and about to be disseminated
	Ministry of Education Science and Sports	Research on the Early Effects of the Capitation Grant Scheme and the School Feeding Programme on Basic Education in Ghana	Research conducted and early effects ascertained
	Ministry of Women and Children's Affairs	Child Rights and Child Protection issues	
Coalition, network	GNECC	Identified as a stakeholder in Basic in the research on school feeding and capitation grant	
RAO, NGO, I-NGO	CEPA, IEA	Participated in CEPAs National Workshop on Women and Children in Ghana. Participated in other RAO's workshops and programmes	
Donor institution	ILO, UNICEF, UNDP	Undertook studies on Child Domestic Work and Girls in Mining for ILO Collaborating with UNDP to develop the 2007 Human Development Report	Research conducted on Child Domestic Work and Girls in Mining.
CBO/DA (please indicate district)			
Other			

4. Outputs on research and advocacy products and/or services delivered

List the outputs as you have presented in the Workplan submitted to G-RAP.

Make sure that you:

- Indicate estimated levels of completion per output
- Indicate target groups that used / received the output delivered

- **Attach copy of concept paper per output**
- **Attach copy of product output**

Output	Target groups	Level of completion
Research on Early Effects of the Capitation Grant Scheme and School Feeding Programme on Basic Education in Ghana	Selected Basic schools in Greater Accra and Central Regions	Zero Draft
Monthly Seminar Series Publication of seminar papers	All stakeholders in Social Mobilisation for development namely; INGOs, NGOS, MDAs, students, and the academia	Seminar series ended. Papers are being collated for publication
Revitalisation of Website	All stakeholders in Social Mobilisation for development namely; INGOs, NGOS, MDAs, students, and the academia	100% complete
General Administration	CSPS administration	
Financial management System	In progress	0% complete

5. Organisation: evidence of significant progress / change

What are major changes in the organisation's circumstances that are likely to have impacted your outputs over the period?

- **Organisational structure / board / management team**
- **Strategy / planning / decision making / knowledge management**
- **Human resource issues**
- **Marketing / communication / public relations**

The Centre has reconstituted its Advisory Board and has established a number of technical committees which are deeply committed to the work of the Centre. Some of the Committees include, Financial Management Committee, Publication Committee, Research and Teaching Committees. The development of the CSPS strategic plan has also enabled the Centre to prioritize its activities for efficiency. Sound management practices have been developed over the period.

CSPS's monthly seminar series has proven to be an effective tool for advocacy, marketing and public relation.

6. Grant and report related issues

6.1 What issues you wish to raise relating to the Grant or to G-RAP management?

No issues

6.2 What parts of the report are confidential or cannot be shared without prior consent?

No part of this report is confidential thus can be shared without prior consent.