

ANNEX 5

Narrative Progress Report

Report period January-June 2007

Contract Ref. No. _____
Contact Tel. No. _____

Organisation IDEG
Report Date _____

Report Prepared by Dr. Lehlohonolo Tlou
Signature & date _____

Report Approved by Dr. Emmanuel Akwetey
Signature & date _____

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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?

Policy adaptations seem to stem from economic, social and political policy reviews, which arose from the need to promote: a) rural development; b) education for all; and c) democratic and decentralized governance. Toward this end, government advanced a set of programmes under the Millennium Challenge Account, the Capitation Grant and School Feeding, and the decentralization plans of action.

Successful implementation could lead to significant movement towards the development of integrated rural economies and infrastructure; achievement of universal primary education throughout the length and breadth of the country; and local ownership of planning and implementation of public policies. Many of the above 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.

Toward the goal to decentralise public policy dialogue, and in line with its mission to generate knowledge and enhance the capacity of citizens to influence public policy choices, in order to consolidate democracy and good governance, IDEG:

- Held meetings with its district **Governance Issues Forum Network** (GIFNET) to
 - Review, update, and plan for tracking district development plans, primarily in the areas of basic social service delivery, youth employment and increased civic participation in decision-making at the district level;
 - Train the GIFNET in participatory monitoring of district development plans/programmes, which would result in reports that will inform a set of community priorities (i.e., basic social service delivery and youth employment) for policy formulation and implementation monitoring;
 - Convene focus groups discussions and meetings with local members and district experts on community priorities (e.g. youth employment, basic social service delivery)
- Convened **Growth and Poverty Forum** (GPF) technical meetings to review the thematic areas of the GPRS II, in preparation for dialogue with GoG, donors and civil society at the **Consultative Group (CG) meeting** in June 2007.
- Presented a position paper, as convener of the **Growth and Poverty Forum**, informing the **Consultative Group** meeting on people-centred development priorities and policy framework for the country.
- Presented a report in a workshop with the **Poverty Reduction Committee of Parliament**, on behalf of the **GPF**, which informed the meeting of pro-poor issues pertaining to the GPRS I APRs (2004-2005)

- Led the **Ghana AU Civil Society Coalition** in creating space in the regional localities for public policy dialogue on the issue of continental government and what the African Union means to ordinary citizens.
- Worked in collaboration with the **Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Regional Integration and NEPAD (MoFA,RI&NEPAD)**, to convene an interactive meeting between the Ministry and civil society on “Informing Ghana’s Position on the AU Summit and the Grand Debate.”
- Hosted a Local Governance Network (LOGNet) meeting, in collaboration with **ActionAid, IBIS-Ghana and ILGS**, to brief network members on the Local Government Act review process and decentralisation policy issues
- IDEG presented a paper on policy decentralization through the GIF to the **Institute for Local Govt Studies Saturday Institute**.
- Partnered with **UNDP**, IDEG hosted a Regional Capacity Development Workshop for civil society, private sector and public sector actors throughout Africa.
- Collaborated with the **National Governance Programme**, by hosting an Expert Meeting to give definition to a research project on Political Transition in Ghana.

Through these activities, collaboration has been strengthened by networking and advocacy campaigns for civic inclusion in the public policy making process, both at national and continental levels.

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?

This section is not shared in the public domain

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	Parliament, CPC,	On-going 5 year study of Parliament	Interviews with MPs as part of data collection process
	Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Regional Integration and NEPAD;	The Grand Debate (i.e Continental Govt)	Interactive meeting between civil society and Ministry , which informed Ghana’s position on the AU Summit and the Grand Debate;
Coalition, network	Research network (team members from Univ of Ghana departments, centres and institutes; private sector; among others)	On going studies on: a) <i>Development Partners and Ghana’s Economic Policy</i> b) <i>Ghanaian Youth, Development and Democracy</i>	Methodology workshops to review conceptual frameworks and implementation issues; and Mid-term reviews of data collection analyses to strengthen the focus of research projects

	Ghana African Union Civil Society Coalition	Informing Ghana's position on the AU Summit and Grand Debate in Accra (ended, but will continue to monitor progress toward the next summit)	<p>AIU Teach In workshop that raised awareness of Ghanaian CSOs;</p> <p>Research and information packaged to promote greater public awareness and access to continental policy process and content;</p> <p>National and Regional outreach and discussions on what the African Union means to ordinary citizens, after which a position paper was shared with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs;</p> <p>Continental Civil Society Conference on "Accelerating Africa's Integration and Development in the 121st Century which produced a communiqué that was shared with the public and the African Union Assembly of Heads of State and Govt;</p> <p>Widely broadcasted Pan African Debate on <i>Is Africa Ready for a United States of Africa?</i></p>
	Growth and Poverty Forum	Annual review of GPRS and Ghana's development framework	Conducted technical reviews of thematic areas and presented a position paper at the CG meeting as a contribution of civil society input
	Governance Issues Forum (GIF)	GIFNetwork meetings; tracking activities related to district priorities	Involvement of non-state actors in the process of development implementation monitoring at the local level
RAO, NGO, I-NGO	Ghana AU Civil Society Coalition, IBIS, OXFAM, FAHAMU, Pan African Movement	AU Pre-Summit activities (AU teach-in; regional outreach programme; national interactive meeting, continental civil society conference, Pan African debate)	Deliberative democracy promoted and a critical mass of citizens in Ghana and the continent proactively participated in the continental policy dialogue on union government proposals
Donor institution	G-RAP, ACBF, UNDP, AFRIMAP,	Work plan activities carried out during the first 6 months of 2007	Support provided helped to realise research, training and interface/advocacy efforts

CBO/DA (please indicate district)	GIFNET in Tema, Gomoa, SAEMA, New Juabeng, Ho, East Gonja, and Garu-Tempane	Youth employment and basic social service delivery	Tracking instruments developed by citizens of a sample group of GIF districts to monitor their respective priority policy issues
Other	MEDIA: Joy FM; TV3 and other print media	Pan African Debate on African union government; Ghana Speaks lecture on "Tribe or Nation"	Supported programme by providing extensive public access to information about the debate issue, through live radio broadcast throughout the country

Sections 4, 5, 6 are not shared in the public domain