

ANNEX 5

Narrative Progress Report

Contract Ref. No. 01/CORE/10/CDD _____
Development

Contact Tel. No. 021 776142 _____

Report period July 2007 – December 2007

Organisation Ghana Center for Democratic

Report Date February 6, 2008 _____

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Report Approved by Prof. E. Gyimah-Boadi

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February 6, 2008

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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?

The GPRS II and President Special Initiative projects have been geared towards the rural sectors of the country. These programs have been specially designed to assist in stabilising and expanding the rural economy, which produces a greater percentage of agricultural produce both for local consumption and exports. The programs have been made possible with multiple donor budget support. Research and advocacy NGOs have also contributed to increasing attention paid by government to pro-poor programs and policy formulation, design, and implementation, as well as programs for marginalized people, through significant pressure and sustained engagement. Some donors specifically require the inclusion of pro-poor policies in government programs that are donor driven. The Millennium Challenge Account (MCA) program, which is in the process of taking off, is a typical example of a pro-poor program where NGOs have provided inputs, and which targets increased productivity for poverty reduction.

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?

The GoG tends to view most RAOs as baneful or useful according to the programs the respective RAOs pursue. For instance, the Ministry of Manpower, Youth and Employment, Ministry of Finance have had a sceptical view of RAOs with regards to discussions on the NGO/Trust Bill yet to be introduced to parliament. But the NDPC as well as CHRAJ and SFO, EC, National Identification Authority, Parliament, and the Judiciary have had a favourable opinion of the Center's programs, stemming mainly from the quality of the Center's technical contribution to deliberations and policy making (examples include the Disability Act and the Domestic Violence Act).

The public generally has a favourable opinion of RAOs because they consider the RAOs as watchdogs through which the ideal of good governance and democracy can be realized. The Center, for example, is frequently asked by the media to comment on various governance issues, and members of staff appear on many public affairs focused radio and television programs. Listeners, viewers and contributors to such programs have largely expressed their appreciation for the explanations, insights and information provided by RAO representatives.

The growing and significant involvement of some RAOs in the formulation, implementation and monitoring of government-initiated programs such as the MCA, GRPS, APRM, the national identification system etc is a recognition of the credibility and utility of RAOs/CSOs/CBOs. It also confers some level of legitimacy to RAOs/NGOs/CBOs.

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 - legislature - Judiciary	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Parliament ▪ Ministry of Manpower, Youth and Employment 	<p>Work is still ongoing under the project <i>Strengthening Parliamentary Processes in Ghana</i>. The program is expected to come to an end in April 2008.</p> <p>CDD has been consistently requested by the Ministry of Manpower, Youth and Employment to review and comment on the NGO/Trust Bill. Not certain as to when the bill will be passed.</p>	<p>The program has already begun to yield positive results, reflected in the expansion and quality of the services provided by the parliamentary departments like the Research, Public Affairs and IT and Library to the Members of Parliament (MPs), and the institution of Parliament.</p> <p>The Bill has been finalised and sent to Parliament.</p>
Coalition, network	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Growth and Poverty Forum ▪ Aid Effectiveness Forum 	<p>CDD-Ghana has been part of the group that occasionally hold meetings to discuss the extent to which the GPRS II is addressing poverty issues in Ghana</p> <p>CDD-Ghana has been conducting a research on "<i>Making Aid More Effective: Evidence and Lessons from Civil Society in Ghana</i>". The research is CDD's contribution to NGOs/CSOs attempts to provides input into the High Level Forum to review the Paris Declaration. The HLF will be held in Accra.</p> <p>The forum will come to an end in November 2008</p>	<p>Last workshop by GPF was held in Akosombo in December 2007. The Center could not attend but forwarded its position paper to the organizers.</p> <p>The research for the Aid Effectiveness Forum is on going.</p>
RAO, NGO, I-NGO	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Ghana Integrity Initiative ▪ Ghana Anti-Corruption Coalition (GACC), ▪ Overseas Development Institute (ODI) ▪ Ghana Federation of the Disabled 	<p>The Center is currently collaborating actively with Ghana Integrity Initiative to conduct programs in "<i>Reforming the Assets Declaration Regime</i>" and "<i>Information Flow Among Accountability and Anti-Corruption Institutions</i>".</p> <p>The center is currently collaborating with ODI to conduct a research with the theme "<i>Power, Politics and the State – How to Develop Political Institutions that Work for the Poor</i>"</p> <p>The Center is collaborating with GFD on the project <i>Promoting and Protecting the Rights of PWDs</i>. This project will end in September 2008</p>	<p>The program with GII is still ongoing.</p> <p>Research with ODI is on going.</p> <p>A series of public educational campaigns has been conducted on the Disability Act 715.</p>

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Donor institution	Friedrich Naumann Foundation	Annual Liberal Lecture” <i>Liberalism in Ghana since Independence</i> ”. Research on the Effectiveness and Sustainability of the National Youth Employment Program. Projects with FNF will end in December 2008.	Lecture was conducted in November 2007. Research on NYEP is on going
CBO/DA (please indicate district)	New Juaben Municipal Authority	CDD has been collaborating with the Juaben Municipality to conduct the NYEP research project	on going
Other	Commission on Human Rights and Administrative Justice.	Currently working on the “Introduction of Non-Custodial Sentencing into the Ghanaian Judicial System”.	This program has drawn active support from the Ministry of Justice and the Ministry of the Interior, all of whom are part of a working group of actors in the criminal justice system reviewing existing NCS laws that could be immediately implemented. Prison visits by CDD staff and other government officials (MPs, Judges, and Ministers) have been done

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

List the outputs as you have presented in the Work plan 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

Fostering Pro-Human Rights Culture – Introduction of Non-Custodial Sentencing to Ghana’s Judicial System. Research on sentencing options is yet to be completed. A five-man working group has been reconvened to determine the administration of NCS within communities in Ghana. On the whole about 55 percent of work is completed. The target groups are made up of the Ministry of Justice and Attorney General, Ministry of the Interior, Prison Services, MPs/Assemblymen/women, CHRAJ, Human Right/Law Professionals, academia, CHRI, Legal Aid Scheme, Department of Social Welfare, Judiciary, Ghana Police Service, and Ghana Bar Association.

Fostering Pro-Human Rights Culture - Nationwide Public Education Campaign on the Disability Act 715 for Service Providers. The remaining 20 percent of the public education campaign had been conducted in Ho and Tamale in September 2008. Together with the MPs, GFD and other organizations, CDD conducted a disability accessibility audit which focused on the level of compliance of service providers to Act 715 with regards to making public places accessible to PWDs. The target groups for this program were the Ghana Federation of the Disabled, service providers, religious bodies and traditional leaders.

Democratic Development

Parliamentary Support Program – In addition to other capacity building programs organized for both MPs and support staff, CDD took MPs and support staff on a monitoring visit to 7 districts in the Ashanti region in August 2007. The tour was meant to give members of the committee the opportunity to understand the challenges and opportunities posed to the further development of the process of decentralization and also

the progress made in the Institutional Development within the Local Government System e.g. Sub-District structures, membership, size, statutory meetings, systems put in place, relations with other institutions, staffing challenges and other human resource issues. The target groups were members of the Parliamentary select Committee on local government and rural development, support staff, and the media.

Democratic Development

Deepening Economic Liberalism & Decentralization in Ghana

"Effectiveness and Sustainability of the National Youth Employment Program". This project is a research on the NYEP. The targeted groups are the national, municipal and district administrations, the youth, the media and the general public. Desk research has been completed for the project. Field research will commence in March 2008.

Election Observation/Education – 2008 National Election

The Center is in the preparatory stage of the election project while soliciting for funds to implement such programs. Additionally, CDD has mapped out areas where PWDs and women can be actively involved in the 2008 national election. The target group for the election monitoring/education program include personnel from EC office, PWDs, Women, media and CSOs

Monitoring APRM Implementation/Other APRM Activities

Development of a framework for CSO monitoring and the expansion of CSO involvement in the APRM implementation has been completed. Funds for this project have been granted by ADB but the project is yet to start.

Afrobarometer

The Center has been coordinating preparatory work for AB Round 4 Surveys scheduled to begin in February 2008. CDD as part of the preparations sent a mission to Liberia and Cote D'voire to look for suitable National Partners/Investigators and also to assess prospects of undertaking AB Round 4 surveys in these countries. A proposal has been submitted to involve Guinea. The target groups will be general citizens, MPs and government ministries, academics and the media.

Roundtables/Lectures/Seminars/Conferences

CDD hosted an international conference under the theme, *"Democratization in Africa: What Progress Toward Institutionalization?"* at the Kofi Annan International Peace Keeping Training Center in October. The target group was academics/scholars from different countries, lead NGO practitioners and government officials.

A round table discussion on *"Child Trafficking and its Implications for Human Rights in Ghana"* was held in October at which a celebrated investigative Journalist provided a confidential briefing of his ongoing investigations into the activities of human traffickers in Ghana. Participants for the confidential briefing were drawn from UNICEF, CHRAJ, US Embassy, CID, NCWD, IOM, Federation of Muslim Women Association of Ghana, Christian Mothers Association, and other gender and children advocacy organizations.

A round table discussion at which CDD staff (on secondment to the UNDP Nigeria for the 2007 elections) shared observations on the 2007 Nigerian elections and reflected on its implications for Ghana" with Ghanaian stakeholders. Target groups were the media, academics, EC, NCCE and Political parties. Other RTDs were focused on *"Media Accountability and Democratic Reforms in Ghana"*

Publications

Democracy Watch, Critical Perspective, and Briefing Papers have been published throughout the year by the Center. The target groups are government institutions, academia, other NGOs, and the media.

Database Development:

Development of a comprehensive database system (DBS) awarded to a consultant has been completed in December 2008. The database system is intended to augment data management capabilities of CDD staff.

Networking/Collaboration

CDD has developed and sustain civil society collaborations throughout the calendar year. Notable ones are IBIS, WILDFAF, GFD, ADD, CEDEP, GFD and FNF.

Institutional Capacity Building

Strategic Development Plan and a Business Plan for the Center are near completion.

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 Board of Governors plays an overall supervisory role and is at the top of the organizational structure. Next to the Board is the Executive Committee made up of three officials who are also the final decision makers in any major activity. Daily activities of CDD-Ghana are supervised by the Executive Director and his associate, as well as the treasurer. Three sectional heads that together with the Executive Director form the Management Committee also assist in the administration of the Center through supervisory roles.

Planning of programs and detailed program activities has been comprehensive, but there may be isolated cases where planning is done on an ad hoc basis because some collaborative programs come in unexpectedly. Decision making basically rests with the Executive Committee. Lately, the Management Committee has been given additional decision making powers. Knowledge management has not officially been formalized and occurs more on a person to person level.

Recruitment of staff is slow but competitive. The retention rate is very high. Staff development is through external short programs organized by other organizations. In addition, staff, especially new recruits, are trained sufficiently to undertake their specific responsibilities.

The Center does not embark on any specific marketing strategy. Generally, information on CDD-Ghana is shared with other organizations through publications - particularly the annual reports. Officially there is no Public Relation person. Most of the PR is done by the Executive Director, a board member, the Head of Programs, the Legal Policy Advisor or any appropriate program staff. The Center is currently trying to recruit a Business Manager. Generally, the Center's relationship with the public, especially the media, has been very cordial.

6. Grant and report related issues

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

PMT should be given the flexibility of coming up with proposals on programs which they deem necessary, but are overlooked/not being tackled by any RAO. Such programs could be assigned to some RAOs to implement.

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

Any part of the report can be shared.