

ANNEX 5

Narrative Progress Report

Report period July – December 2007

Contract Ref. No. _____ Organisation Northern Ghana Network for Development
Contact Tel. No. 071 24797 Report Date 14th January,07

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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?

One of the 3 core functions of the Northern Ghana Network for Development is to Research and advocate for poverty reduction in northern Ghana and the Government devoted the equivalent of 25 million US dollars as seed money for the establishment of the Northern Ghana Development fund. This is a significant pro poor agenda that the Network has been fighting for over the years. The Networks plans a public sensitization program in March in order to create avenue for many more groups such as Regional and Traditional houses of chiefs and youth groups to participate in planning and use of the funds. The Network intends to advocate for the fund to be made statutory so that such money will be budgeted each year and paid into the fund. The Network will participate in deliberations on how the Northern Development fund will be used. The Network will be more involved in monitoring the use of the funds with less involvement in using the funds.

The Northern Ghana Network for Development organized a meeting with four Members of Parliament on October 10, 2007 to discuss with them the possibility of holding a Northern Ghana development forum to identify the development priorities of the north and prepare and propose a development program to the government for consideration. The northern caucus in parliament had been holding consultations among themselves. The initiative of the Network has contributed to the government's initiative of providing seed money to set up the northern development fund. The Network also facilitated the assessment of the quality of basic education in some districts in northern Ghana, recommendations of this assessment has led to extension of the government's school feeding program to some poor schools in the north, Tolon-kumbungu district, Bongo district and Tamale Metropolis.

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?

A number of government officials have mentioned Civil Society as calling on government accountability. During the distribution of relief to victims of floods in northern Ghana, the Minister of Interior Kwamena Burtels told critics of the government's relief efforts that he was sure the NGOs were watching the distribution and will call anyone to order when there was any attempt to misuse relief resources.

The Northern Regional Minister also asked the RCC to call on the Northern Ghana Network for Development to play a lead role in monitoring the distribution of relief items to victims of the floods in the area. The Minister told the Executive Secretary of the Network that he expects those of them who will hold the government to account for relief activities to be involved in the relief effort as monitors and not to wait until when the whole exercise was over before they begin to point out the weaknesses of the exercise.

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	Northern Caucus in Parliament	Special poverty reduction agenda for northern Ghana	The government has devoted 25 million cedis as seed money for the Northern Ghana Development fund
Coalition, network	Inter NGO Consortium	Convened several meetings of INGO and LNGOs and UN agencies to respond to floods in northern Ghana	Relief mobilized and distributed to over 200 displaced families
RAO, NGO, I-NGO	VSO Ghana	Promoting Decentralization for Good Governance	To recruit professional staff as short term volunteers for 5 distressed District Assemblies (Karaga, West Mamprusi, Central Gonja, Bongo and Tolon) in the Northern and Upper East regions
Donor institution	DFID	Multi-Donor Budget Support Initiative	NGOs/RAOs now understand the changing trend in donor funding
CBO/DA (please indicate district)	Bongo DA, Karaga, Central Gonja, Westmamprusi, Tolon-Kumbungu DA	Human resource capacity development	Compiled a database of human resource gap in all these five districts. Trained DAs on voluntarism and volunteer placement
Other	UNDP	Working on Civil society database	Information on RAOs/NGOs activities available

4. Out

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	Level of Completion	Target group
• Improved Human resource capacity of NGND	-- 85% complete	staff of NGND
• Improved Financial record keeping	-- 100% complete	RAOs/NGOs
• Enhanced School governance and adm	-- 45% complete	RAOs
• Improved corporate governance of Exe. Cttee	--- 0% complete	- - -
• Strengthened research/advocacy unit	---- 61% complete	NGND/RAOs
• Consolidated regional chapters	---- 99% complete	RAOs/NGOs
• Volunteers support DAs human resource	--- 40% complete	DAs
• Improved RAOs skills in RBA	---- 49% complete	RAOs

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**

EC members reconstituted and Board members received training and orientation on Network programs in November 2007

- **Strategy / planning / decision making / knowledge management**

Network Strategic document reviewed at workshop and new one made

- **Human resource issues**

Research and Advocacy Manager recruited and two staff supported on post graduate studies

- **Marketing / communication / public relations**

Network Newsletter produced and circulated to District Assemblies, Donor community and other civil society groups

6. Grant and report related issues

None