

ANNEX 5

Narrative Progress Report

Report period: January – June 2008

Contract Ref. No. 01/CORE/12/CEPA
Contact Tel. No. 021 420054/420055

Organisation: Centre for Policy Analysis
Report Date: 18 July 2008

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Signature & date

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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?

Government's pro-poor policy has not changed within the last six months. However, the first half of year 2008 has been characterized by rising crude oil prices and the threat of the global food crises. The call has been for government to mitigate against the hardships Ghanaians are facing by subsidising petroleum product prices. Government's response has been to draw out a strategy, which includes reduction in prices of some petroleum products like diesel, kerosene, pre-mix fuel (for fishermen) and the removal of excise duties on some products including cereals and vegetable oils.

Government has also continued its National Youth Employment Programme in a bid to reduce poverty. CEPA in the past six months has continued research which impacts directly on Government's pro-poor policy. Some of these research work include its Spatial Dimension of Poverty Project which looks at the MDG indices at the districts level, the Accelerated Growth Strategy and the Gender, Poverty and Economic Growth Projects. There has also been the capacity building module for staff of the Ministry for Trade, Industry, PSD and PSI through the Ease/Cost of Doing Business Project.

2. Public image

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

The Government of Ghana and the Ghanaian Public continue to recognize the credibility and legitimacy of RAOs. The public often calls on RAOs to lead the debate on some important issues while the Government of Ghana calls on the RAO community to contribute and lead the debate.

As part of the 2008 Budget Statement to Parliament, the Finance Minister announced the establishment of a special initiative on sustainable development of Northern Ghana, accompanied by a Northern Ghana Development Fund, with a seed capital of 25 million new Ghana cedis.

Due to CEPA's innovative and preliminary work on the Accelerated Growth Strategy, it has been commissioned by the Government of Ghana to lead the technical team to develop a framework for the proposed special initiative for Sustainable Development of Northern Ghana by producing a strategic framework and associated action plan as per the recommendations of the roundtable and co-ordinating the consultative processes and the socio-political dimensions of the development strategy in a manner to result in optimum stakeholder involvement and ownership of the plan. It must be noted that collaborative work with other research institutions, government MDAs and NGOs suggests acceptance.

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	Min of Trade, Industry, PSD and PSI	Stepping Stone Economic Partnership Agreement. Ongoing.	Various deadlines have been met.
	-do-	Ease/Cost of Starting a Business. Completed.	Workshops and Research Report
	-do-	Ease/Cost of Trading Across Borders. Ongoing	
	Ministry of Finance and Economic Planning	Aid Harmonisation and Effectiveness. Ongoing.	Conference scheduled for September 2008.
	Executive	Development Strategy for Northern Ghana. Ongoing.	Workshops and Research reports.
Coalition, network	Association of Ghanaian Industries	Stepping Stone Economic Partnership Agreement, Completed.	Workshop.
	Ghanaian Media	Training programme on the budgetary process. Completed.	Training.
RAO, NGO, I-NGO	G-RAP-RAOs	Engendering G-RAP. Ongoing.	Action Learning Sets
Donor institution	GTZ/JICA	Technical Co-operation for Capacity Building. Completed.	Research Report and Workshops.
	TIPCEE	Exchange Rate Regime and Microstructure of the Foreign Exchange Market. Completed.	Research Report and Workshops.
	TIPCEE	Appropriate Exchange Rate Regime for a Competitive Export-led Growth Strategy for Ghana. Completed.	Research Report and Workshops
	TIPCEE	Ease/Cost of Starting a Business. Ongoing.	Research Report and Workshops
	GTZ	Ease/Cost of Trading Across Borders. Ongoing.	Research Report and Workshops
CBO/DA (please indicate district)	New Juaben East; Ho; Kumasi; Shama Ahanta Districts	Districts Programme. Ongoing.	Research Reports and Workshops
	Dangme East; Cape Coast; Ashiedu Keteke Districts	Gender, Poverty and Economic Growth. Ongoing.	Research Reports and Workshops

Other	CEPA staff sit on the boards of a number of organisations.		
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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

1. Ghana Economic Review and Outlook (Part 1). Copy of publication attached.
2. Ease/Cost of Starting a Business. Copy of report attached. Completed.
3. Exchange Rate Regime and Microstructure of Ghana's Foreign Exchange Market. Copy of report attached. Completed.
4. Appropriate Exchange Rate Regime for a Competitive Export-led Growth Strategy for Ghana. Copy of publication attached. Completed.
5. Technical Co-operation for Capacity Building. Copy of paper attached. Completed.
6. Paper presented at the Roundtable Discussion in commemoration of European Union Day. Copy of paper attached. Completed.
7. Districts Programme. Draft copy of research report attached. Ongoing.
8. Lecture given to the Media on the Budgetary Process. Completed.

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
- Strategy/Planning/Decisionmaking/Knowledge Management

CEPA had to move from its premises at the Airport Residential Area as the landlord had requested for his property. CEPA relocated to GIMPA where it has also been allocated land to put up an office complex. The relocation has proved challenging as communication has been badly disrupted. This was due to difficulties from Ghana Telecom. This made it difficult for CEPA to be contacted and vice versa hence delays in our work schedule.

6. Grant and report related issues

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

N/A

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

Issues that are still being discussed including concept papers that have been attached.