

ANNEX 2

Core Grant Narrative Progress Report Report period June-December 2008

Contract Ref. No. 01/core/57/WANEP Organisation WEST AFRICA NETWORK FOR PEACEBUILDING (WANEP)

Contact Tel. No. 233-21-775975/775977 Report Date 29/01/2009

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

1. Institutional/Organisation Development: 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

Indicators		Baseline	Prior Period	Current Period	Cumulative
1.	HR Management i) <i>Leadership</i>	September 2008	Management at WANEP Regional Secretariat was overwhelmed with task as a result of absence of Programmes Director who was in Abuja as r WANEP Liaison Officer to ECOWAS.	Programme Director, who at ECOWAS, moved to the Regional Secretariat in Accra and this has greatly impacted on the work at the secretariat	Leadership delivery has improved; Management is reviewing staff job descriptions to improve efficiency and maximum performance.
	ii) <i>Core staff</i>	June 2008 (reporting period)	No numerical changes	No numerical change	Staff attended international workshops and conferences that exposed them to new knowledge

	iii) <i>Support staff</i>	June 2008 (reporting period)	Presence of interns in WANEP Secretariat	No interns (there are however applications)	New applications for internship are being studied.
4.	Governance i) <i>Board</i>	June 2008	The seven members old Board met with five regular members attending. Their mandate expired and new Board was due to be reconstituted in January 2009.	WANEP initiated the nominations process towards the constitution of a new Board due January 2009. The process was transparent and nominations came from member organisations according to agreed criteria.	A new professional board was due for election at the next AGM. The outgoing Board is made up of three women and four men.
ii) ii)	ii) <i>Committees</i>	June 2008	A Constitutional review committee of board members started a process of reviewing the WANEP constitution to suit restructuring and new realities.	WANEP started the process of reviewing and amending its constitution and by-laws.	The review and adoption of a new constitution will constitute a significant development in line with the restructuring that started three years ago.
	iii) <i>Documented board meetings, Management meetings</i>	June 2008		During the period under review, a second Board meeting was held in September 2008. Management meetings have been regular.	There are minutes of all these meetings. WANEP has been very good at documentation of all meetings.
	iv) <i>Staff meetings</i>	June 2008		Staff meetings were held regularly once every month during the period reported.	

5.	Systems and procedures <i>Financial management systems</i> ii) <i>Budgeting</i> iii) <i>Accounting</i> iv) <i>Internal control</i> v) <i>Financial reporting</i> vi) <i>External audit</i>	June 2008	Budgeting, accounting, internal control and financial reporting systems exist.	An external audit by KPMG was conducted. WANEP's audited financial reports have been shared with Partners. It will be presented at the next AGM.	Financial management systems have been consolidated and improved.
	i) <i>Operational policies</i> vii) <i>HR policy</i> viii) <i>Gender policy</i> ix) <i>Conflict of interest policy</i> x) <i>Programme development</i> xi) <i>policy</i> xii) <i>Procurement policy</i>	June 2008	Operational policies exist and continue to be improved.	Suggestions towards review of the HR Manual are being collated to take into account the reviewed constitution and byelaws.	This is work in progress.
7.	Funding base development <i>List long-term programmes(3yrs+)</i>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Early Warning and Response Development (EWARDS); a program that WANEP expects to commence hopefully by end of first quarter of 2009. This is a WANEP-ECOWAS-USAID partnership with a grants management US partner organisation. • ECOWARN (ECOWAS-WANEP Early Warning System) • IFOR-WPP Programme 		
	<i>List short-term programme(1 year)</i>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Integrated and Collaborative Conflict Prevention and Crisis Management in West Africa (Supported by Government of Finland) • G-RAP • IBIS MRU, Justice Lens and WAHRD 		
	<i>Total dollar volume of programmes</i>				
	<i>Approved dollar volumes</i>				
	<i>Percentage overhead recovery</i>				

2. Collaboration, coalitions and networking

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

	Organisation /Coalition	Policy issue / theme / nature Starting / ongoing / ending	Outcome
Government - executive - judiciary - legislature	Ministry of the Interior	Providing input in Government of Ghana official statement at the Geneva Summit on the Geneva Declaration on Armed Violence Collaborating with the Ministry of the Interior in the operationalisation of the ECOWAS Early Warning System (ECOWARN) Invitation to the Minister to be part of the opening ceremony for WAPI	Ghana endorsed the Geneva declaration. A Staff of the Ministry of Interior is Government Focal Point person for Conflict Monitoring and data collection for ECOWARN Ministry participated and delivered a keynote speech at the opening of WAPI
Coalition, network	Civic Forum Initiative (CFI)	Ensuring Transparent, Free, Fair and Peaceful elections. A deep level of engagement was developed during the period under review.	Ghanaians enjoyed peaceful elections even under constraints and difficulties. Ghana is now a good example of democracy in Africa.
Peers CBOs	WAHRD Partnership (WANEP, FOSDA, MFWA, IBIS West Africa	Engaged directly in conflict prone areas of Ghana to mediate and build capacity in communities for peaceful elections	The elections in all the selected conflict prone areas passed off peacefully.
	Bawku Literary Association, BEWDA	Building Peace in Bawku Municipality	On-Going
Donor agencies	IBIS	Same as Above	Follow-on activities are planned
	G-RAP	Supporting Peace efforts in Nkonya-Alavanyo	
DA (please indicate district)	Bawku Tamale	Supporting peacebuilding in Bawku and Tamale Municipalities	Community Dialogue initiatives have been planned for first and second quarters of 2009
Private Sector	MTN	Negotiating partnership to develop an Early Warning System for Conflict Prevention.	On-going in the first and second quarter of 2009

3. National pro-poor policies

Identified Policy Issue	Research activities in relation to the identified policy area	What are the policy gaps identified from the research conducted	What is your organisations position on these issues supported by your research	What policy alternatives do you propose and how do you hope to achieve this policy change
Build up to the December 2008 general elections in Ghana.	Data collection and production of a policy brief on “December 2008 Elections in Ghana: Stakes, Challenges and Perspectives.”	The majority poor in Ghana are most vulnerable to violence and the consequences of violence would affect them more.	The poor in Ghana are most vulnerable to violence; While political leaders and activists easily find political asylum and sanctuary in other countries during major crises, the majority poor are the ones who become internally displaced as well as migrate to other countries as refugees.	A peaceful conduct of the Ghanaian elections was therefore very important to sustain pro-poor policies. Dialogue, mediation and reconciliation of the population is needed to heal the wounds of electoral quarrels, divisions and differences.

4. Success Story

Briefly describe your organisation’s landmark achievement this period

As part of its on-going Conflicts Prevention Program, WANEP produced policy briefs for advocacy work with the Government of Ghana and other West African governments on the Elections in Ghana, the assassination attempt on the life of Guinea Bissau’s president, and the crisis in Guinea in the aftermath of the death of Guinea’s President Lansana Conté.¹

In view of the December 2008 elections in Ghana, WANEP deemed it necessary to produce an analytical policy brief to adequately inform key stakeholders on the situation in Ghana. These stakeholders include: the sub-regional organisation, ECOWAS (with whom WANEP has established a partnership for conflict prevention and peacebuilding in West Africa since 2002 backed by an MOU), the African Union-AU (WANEP being a member of the AU-Economic and Social Council and representing West Africa in the Peace and Security Cluster) and the United

¹ See www.wanep.org The policy briefs are also attached to this report

Nations (WANEP has Consultative Status with UN-ECOSOC) as well as the international community. The policy brief on Ghana was captioned: “December 2008 Elections in Ghana: Stakes, Challenges & Perspectives.”

WANEP as a peacebuilding organisation was very concerned that an outbreak of violence in the course of the elections would lead to loss of lives and destruction of property and thus compromise all development efforts in Ghana. With this in mind, WANEP remained alert. WANEP monitored several incidences of violence during the period of political campaigning which raised very serious concerns for peace and stability that constituted sources of potential setbacks in pro-poor (development) policies in Ghana. In Berekum in the Brong-Ahafo region, Suhum in the Eastern region, Gushiegu and Tamale in the Northern region significant incidences of violence were observed. In some suburbs of the capital city of Accra, reported incidents of clashes between supporters of the New Patriotic Party (NPP) and the National Democratic Congress (NDC) heightened the sense of insecurity and the likelihood of violence capable of marring the 2008 general elections. The political heat and sensation generated within the media landscape was alarming and threatening.

WANEP’s Contribution towards Peaceful Elections in Ghana

i) Working within the Civic Forum Initiative (CFI)

During the period under review, WANEP joined the Institute of Democratic Governance (IDEG) a Research and Advocacy Organization under G-RAP to set up and work within a collective Civil Society effort in working for transparent, free, fair and peaceful elections. This joint effort was called the Civic Forum Initiative (CFI) and brought together Civil Society Organizations including the Catholic Bishops Conference, the Christian Council of Ghana and the Muslim Council. Under the CFI, much effort was put in monitoring the preparations for the elections and setting up Observer Teams to compliment election monitoring from the perspective of non-violence and peaceful elections. An important state Institution that partnered in this effort was the National Commission for Civic Education (NCCE). Monitoring was undertaken through the deployment of election observers in various Regions as well as setting up a Situation Room from where there was a national monitoring of the election process.

As part of the preparatory process for the elections, WANEP engaged with the security agencies and various platforms and advocated for special security arrangements to be made in particular flashpoint areas where violence had been endemic over the past two years. Such advocacy was informed by a conflict analysis which indicated that many of the intra and inter-communal conflicts in Ghana were also politicised particularly between the NPP and the NDC parties. As the highly contested elections also became a security issue, it was important to ensure a security arrangement in which political campaigning did not exacerbate into unmanageable violence that would particularly affect the poor masses and worsen their livelihoods. The Dagbon Traditional area and the Greater Bawku area where conflicts have been raging were specifically targeted.

Immediately after the second round of elections, the collation and declaration of results raised tensions in Ghana to unprecedented levels. WANEP in partnership with IDEG within the Civic Forum Initiative engaged actively in a bridge building role between leaders of the National

Democratic Congress (NDC) and the New Patriotic Party while providing expertise for the National Peace Council and Religious leaders to provide the prophetic voice and intermediary roles that were required to minimise tensions and manage a peaceful transition.

ii) Working within the West Africa Human Rights and Democracy Project (WAHRD)

As part of its broader strategy to enhance collaborative peacebuilding and within its pro-poor agenda in the Research and Advocacy Community, WANEP worked in another coalition under the West Africa Human Rights and Democracy Project (WAHRD) to engage directly in conflict prone areas. The WAHRD Partners include WANEP, the Foundation for Security and Development (FOSDA), the Media Foundation for West Africa (MFWA) and IBIS West Africa.

a) Capacity building workshops for Electoral Conflict Prevention

In an effort to contribute to peaceful elections in the Ghana Presidential and Parliamentary elections in 2008, the WAHRD partners organized two of the three-day workshops in Tamale and Bawku in October and November, respectively. FOSDA provided leadership in the campaign against small arms proliferation and the design and distribution of campaign materials, peace marches and election observation. The MFWA provided leadership in engaging with the media for best practice in Peace Journalism and conflict sensitive reporting, while WANEP concentrated on the promotion of gender equality, early warning and early response, conflict resolution and peacebuilding at the local level. The direct beneficiaries of the rapid response capacity building activities included community leaders, youths, political party representatives, the Electoral Commission, the National Commission on Civic Education, women's groups, civil society organizations, six ethnic groups in Bawku (namely; Mamprusis, Kusasis, Moshies, Bimobas, Hausas, and Bissass), the Bawku Literary Society, Security agents and the media. These participants were taken through topics such as *Understanding Conflict: Elections and Violence*, *The Role of Small Arms in Conflict*, *Spectrums of Conflict Resolution*, *Community Based Early Warning Systems During Elections*, *Information Gathering and Dissemination*, *Community Policing*, *Steps to Ensuring Peaceful 2008 Elections*, *The Role of the Media in Promoting Democracy in Ghana*, *Journalism and Peace Building*, *Production and Programming*, and *Ethical Considerations in Election Coverage*.

b) Non Violence and Peace Campaigns

FOSDA, under the theme of the campaign for peaceful elections: *ELECTION 2008: BALLOTS NOT BULLTS – BE THE PEACE*, provided active leadership in the production and dissemination of campaign materials. In order to raise more awareness on the need for peace before, during and after the elections, a significant number of campaign materials in the form of Tee-shirts, banners, danglers, mini bill boards, caps, posters, car stickers, leaflets etcetera were distributed with a central message: ***'Election 2008: Ballots not Bullets- Be the Peace.'***

These materials were distributed throughout the three Northern Regions and in Accra. The posters and banners were placed at strategic vantage points such as toll booths, markets places, police barriers and other public places where they would be visible. Over 80 (eighty) volunteers were

trained and deployed as peace ambassadors in their communities in and around Tamale, Yendi, Gushegu, and Bawku who carried out one-on-one and door-to-door peace campaigns.

c) *Community Shuttle Diplomacy*

WAHRD through FOSDA consulted and engaged key stakeholders in the Northern Region who have direct influence on the people, especially the youth. Some of these stakeholders included: chiefs, political party leaders and influential activists, youth leaders, the police commander, the electoral commission, as well as various opinion leaders. The goal was to propagate the message of peace and incorporate their views on the way forward for arms free and violence-free elections. Major concerns were raised about purported arms in the hands of the youth and political party sympathizers which led to the restructuring of the training module on small arms to address the menace. A consensus was reached to keep arms off the streets. At the Northern Regional House of Chiefs, the WAHRD partners were given the opportunity to meet the full house.

d) *Peace March in Tamale and Bawku*

A peace March was held in Tamale, in the Northern Region on 18th of September 2008 by the WAHRD partners under the leadership of FOSDA in collaboration with other civil society organizations. This action came in the wake of disturbing reports of violence, political clashes and rising tensions among ethnic groups and factions in some parts of the Northern Region. The situation created an intense suspicion of instability that warranted an urgent action (peace march in this case) to ensure peaceful elections. WAHRD in partnership with other CSOs rallied and marched through the main streets in Tamale and Bawku brandishing peace placards, banners, tee-shirts etcetera. The Bawku Peace March was organised in collaboration with BEWDA and the Concerned Women Association on 19th November 2008 on the streets of the Municipal Capital. Another peace March was held concurrently at Garu - Tempani.

e) *Election Observation*

As part of the process to monitor the impact of the 'Ballots not Not Bullets: Be the Peace' activities embarked upon in the project areas, FOSDA led the WAHRD partnership to observe the December 2008 general elections in the Northern Region of the country. To facilitate this, WANEP requested an accreditation for the WAHRD partners from the Ghana Electoral Commission and was granted two level observer status; national and international. A total of eighty (80) people, majority of them being Peace Volunteers and five international guests, were trained and deployed as Elections observers.

The election observers specifically covered the following areas; Tamale Municipal (Central, North, South), Yendi, Gonja East, Mamprusi, Salaga, Bawku, Gushiegu, Bimbila. Observation started as early as 4:00am on December 7th, 2008 and WAHRD observers were all over in the North. In some constituencies they were the only observers that were present. A debriefing meeting was held on December 8th, 2008 for observers to relay their findings. Generally, the reports concluded that the elections were free, fair and devoid of violence, intimidation and harassment.

f) Press Conference

The WAHRD Partnership organized a Press Conference in Accra on Thursday 11th of December 2008 to make the findings of their observation public in an interim report. The report findings pronounced the election process in the first round as free, fair and credible. No significant incident was recorded in the Northern Region. Concrete recommendations were sent to the Electoral Commission to fine tune the run-off.

Media Engagement and Advocacy

In the first round of the general elections on 7th December 2008, WANEP together with its Civil Society counterparts monitored the elections and engaged actively on election related policy issues on both Television and Radio on local as well as international networks. The local networks included Ghana Radio and Ghana Television, Metropolitan Television, TV3, Net 2 Television, Joy FM, Choice FM, Citi FM, Radio Gold, Atlantis Radio, Happy FM all in Accra. Other Networks included Love FM in Kumasi in the Ashanti Region as well as Radio stations Takoradi in the Western Region and Koforidua in the Eastern Region, Tamale in the Northern Region and Bolgatanga in the Upper east Region. WANEP engagement with International Networks included Radio Dutchwella in Germany, the British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC) Radio and Television, and Vox Populi in the United Kingdom and the satellite Africa Independent Television (AIT) based in Nigeria.

Given the fragile situation in Guinea Bissau and the regional implication of a crisis in one country on the entire sub-region, a briefing entitled: “Post Election Coup Attempt and Threat of Destabilization” was produced. While Ghana was undergoing a transition through the ballot box, the demons of coup d’etats resurfaced in Guinea following the demise of President Lansana Conté. WANEP again was in the limelight and analyzed the situation with the caption: “Transitional Crisis in Guinea: Coup d’état, Its Inevitability, Legitimizing Factors & Lessons for Africa.”

(NB. Hard copies of these products are attached to report).

5. Stakeholder Perception

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 Ghanaian public overwhelmingly appreciated the role of Civil Society Organizations in the RAOs in contributing significantly to peaceful elections and a peaceful transition. There has also been remarkable increase in the level of collaboration and partnership amongst RAOs. The new Government of the NDC under President John Evans Atta Mills would certainly appreciate the contributions of RAOs as they are the direct beneficiaries of a peaceful transition in which they have the mandate of the people of Ghana to govern for four years (2009-2012).

RAOs have continued to demonstrate expertise and high level of competence in various specialised fields. It also emerged in the 2008 general elections that politics had divided and polarised Ghanaians. RAOs offered a middle ground in analysis and provided leadership in sustaining the common purpose for national unity. While Religious leaders had the convening power to be able to meet with various political leaders, the RAOs provided content analysis, alternatives, created scenarios to bring home the urgency required for prompt and proactive responses to the deepening stalemate following the second round of the general elections.

During the past six months, strong indications support the argument that the credibility and legitimacy of RAOs is now fully appreciated. WANEP and IDEG met with the Chairman of the Electoral Commission and other senior staff on many occasions. Leaders of political parties were willing to meet and listen to concerns, analysis and options provided by RAOs. Many of these leaders expressed appreciation for all the work that was done during the period under review.

Government officials participated in programs organised by RAO members. On 1st September 2008, Hon. K.T.Hammond, former Deputy Minister of the Interior in the NPP Administration participated and delivered a keynote speech at the opening of the West Africa Peacebuilding Institute (WAPI). In the Northern Region, the former Regional Minister Hon. Mustapha Idriss was personally involved in program activities for non-violent elections. At District levels, Municipal and District Chief Executive played similar roles.

6. What is your perception on the general policy making environment in Ghana

- There is an increase in the involvement of civil society and other stakeholders in the design and implementation of general policy making. During the period leading up to the 2008 general elections, WANEP advocated a security policy that took into account the preservation of national cohesion and promotion of national unity. When the Government closed the borders with the Republic of Togo before the 7th December 2008 elections, it became apparent that such policy needed a review along the lines of WANEP security policy advocacy. The policy was reversed to include closer of the other borders during the second round elections.
- There is however the need to improve in this area of involvement in general policy framing while developing a mechanism for monitoring how civil society involvement is influencing policy formulation.

7. Grant and report related issues

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

WANEP appreciates highly core grant support from G-RAP. During the period under review, WANEP was able to meet with the Management Team of G-RAP. While the meeting was productive, it provided first hand information on the ways to enhance partnership and work with G-RAP. We are grateful for the continued support and partnership from G-RAP.

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

The report as it is presented does not have restricted portions that may be confidential.

