

ANNEX 2

Core Grant Narrative Progress Report

Report Period January – June, 2009

Contract Ref. No. 03/CORE/26/IEA

Organisation The Institute of Economic Affairs (IEA-Ghana)

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Report Date June 30, 2009

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Report Approved by Mrs Jean Mensa, Administrator

Signature & date

Signature & date

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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> ii) <i>Core staff</i> iii) <i>Support staff</i>	3 member Management Team 15 core staff 10 support staff	3 member Management Team 15 core staff 10 support staff	3 member Management Team 15 core staff 10 support staff	3 member Management Team 15 core staff and 10 support staff
2. Governance i) <i>Board</i> ii) <i>Committees</i> iii) <i>Documented Board and Management meetings</i> iv) <i>Staff meetings</i>	5 Member Board 4 Board Meetings per year	5 Member Board 2 Board Meetings Two Committees-The IEA	5 Member Board 2 Board Meetings Two Committees-	5 Member Board 4 Board Meetings 4 Anniversary Planning Committee Meetings

		Presidential Debates Committee and the National and Regional Enforcement Body of the Political Parties Code of Conduct	The IEA 20 th Anniversary Planning Committee and the Agricultural Trade Policy Research Team	7 Research Progress Report Meetings
	Weekly Management meetings	Weekly Management meetings	26 Weekly Management	26 Management Meetings
	Weekly Staff Meetings	Weekly Staff Meetings	20 Weekly Staff Meetings	20 Staff Meetings
3. Systems and procedures <i>Financial management systems</i> i) <i>Budgeting</i> ii) <i>Accounting</i> iii) <i>Internal control</i> iv) <i>Financial reporting</i> v) <i>External audit</i>	<p>The Institute uses Zero Based Budgeting (ZZB) in our budgets</p> <p>The Institute has in place a Financial Manual with policies and procedures which corresponds with International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS)</p> <p>The Institute also has in place internal control systems which ensures that expenses conform to procedures</p> <p>External Auditors are contracted on an annual basis. Interim audits</p>	<p>Zero Based Budgeting used</p> <p>Procedures in Financial Manual followed</p> <p>Quarterly Financial Reports to various partners and Board</p> <p>Internal control systems monitored</p>	<p>Zero Based Budgeting used</p> <p>Procedures in Financial Manual followed</p> <p>Quarterly Financial Reports to various partners and Board produced</p> <p>Internal control systems monitored</p>	<p>Annual auditing undertaken</p> <p>Annual Financial Reports to various partners and Board produced</p> <p>2008 Annual Audited Report Finalised</p>

<p><i>Operational policies</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> vi) <i>HR policy</i> vii) <i>Gender policy</i> viii) <i>Conflict of interest policy</i> ix) <i>Programme development policy</i> x) <i>Procurement policy</i> xi) <i>Non-Discriminatory Policy</i> 	<p>also done as and when the need arises.</p> <p>HR Policy in place</p> <p>Draft Gender Policy</p> <p>Programme Development Policy</p> <p>Procurement policy</p>	<p>Existing HR policy in use</p> <p>Gender policy drafted and reviewed</p> <p>Programme Development policy in use</p> <p>Quarterly meetings to review programme development policy</p> <p>Procurement policy in use</p>	<p>Existing HR policy in use</p> <p>Gender policy finalised</p> <p>Programme development policy reviewed</p> <p>Procurement policy in use</p> <p>Non-Discriminatory Policy developed</p>	<p>HR policy in place</p> <p>Gender policy in place</p> <p>Annual programme meeting to review programme development policy</p> <p>Procurement policy in place</p> <p>Non-Discriminatory Policy developed and HR Policy Manual upgraded</p>
<p>4. Funding base development</p> <p><i>List long-term programmes(3yrs +)</i></p> <p><i>List short-term programme(1 year)</i></p> <p><i>Total dollar volume of programmes [d1]</i></p> <p><i>Approved dollar volumes[d2]</i></p> <p><i>Percentage overhead recovery[d3]</i></p>	<p>Long-term programmes</p> <p>1. The IEA/NIMD Ghana Political Parties Programme</p> <p>2. International Development Research Centre</p> <p>3. Ghana Research and Advocacy Programme</p> <p>Short-term</p>	<p>Long-term programmes</p> <p>1.(a) The IEA/NIMD Ghana Political Parties Programme</p> <p>(b) The 2008 Evening Encounters with Presidential Candidates</p> <p>3. Ghana Research and Advocacy Programme</p> <p>Short-term</p>	<p>Long-term programmes</p> <p>1. The IEA/NIMD Ghana Political Parties Programme</p> <p>2. International Development Research Centre</p> <p>3. Ghana Research and Advocacy Programme</p> <p>Short-term</p>	<p>Long-term programmes</p> <p>1. (a) The IEA/NIMD Ghana Political Parties Programme</p> <p>(b) The 2008 Evening Encounters with Presidential Candidates</p> <p>2.International Development Research Centre</p> <p>3. Ghana Research and Advocacy Programme</p> <p>Short-term programmes</p>

	programmes	programmes	programmes	
	1. Food and Agricultural Organisation		1. Reserach and Advocacy Project on Articulating Appropriate Trade Policies and Trade Policy Mainstreaming in Agriculture - FAO	1. Reserach and Advocacy Project on Articulating Appropriate Trade Policies and Trade Policy Mainstreaming in Agriculture - FAO
	2. Centre for International Private Enterprise	2. (a) The IEA Election Programme – CIPE (b) Africa Partners Roundtable – CIPE (c) The 2008 Presidential and Vice Presidential Debates- CIPE	2. Research and Advocacy Programme on the Impact of the Global Financial Crisis- CIPE	2. (a) Research and Advocacy Programme on the Impact of the Global Financial Crisis- CIPE (b) The IEA Election Programme – CIPE (c) Africa Partners Roundtable – CIPE (d) The 2008 Presidential and Vice Presidential Debates - CIPE
	3. Canadian High Commission	3. Reseach and Advocacy on Strategies for increasing Female Participation in Politics -CHC	3. Reseach and Advocacy on Strategies for increasing Female Participation in Politics -CHC	3. Reseach and Advocacy on Strategies for increasing Female Participation in Politics -CHC

Project	Budgeted Amount (\$)	Amount Received (\$)	overhead and admin
Netherlands Institute of Multiparty Democracy (NIMD) Ghana Political Parties Programme	667,000.00	290,000.00	84,274.75
Centre for International Private Enterprise (CIPE)	150,000.00	46,091.00	18,500.00
International Development Research Centre (IDRC)	414, 542.98		51, 240.67
G-RAP	200,000.00	60,000.00	38, 070.00
Food and Agricultural Organisation (FAO)	65,000.00	20,000.00	-
Canadian High Commission	5,000.00	4,700.00	-
Grand Total	1,930,772.98	420,791.00	192,085.42

2. Collaboration, coalitions and networking

over Using the format below, list the most important organisations you collaborated with 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 [E.O.4]
Government - executive - judiciary - legislature	Executive (Ministries of Food and Agriculture and Trade and Industry)	Launch of a Research Project on Articulating Appropriate Trade Policies and Trade Policy Mainstreaming in Agriculture (Ongoing)	<p>The Agricultural Trade Policy Project is being implemented by The IEA in collaboration with the Food and Agricultural Organisation (FAO). The objective of the project is to make substantive contributions to articulating appropriate trade policies and necessary support measures, mainstreaming the policies and measures in national development frameworks and mobilising resources through investment and technical assistance projects, notably in the context of the Aid for Trade initiative. Capacity building is also a core aim of the project to strengthen the Ministry of Food and Agriculture and other relevant government units in undertaking the above analyses and work through participation in analytical works. The research focuses on four main areas. These are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Articulation of appropriate trade policies based on sound economic analysis ✓ Aid for Trade: The process of identifying and prioritising trade-related support measures in Agriculture ✓ Mainstreaming Trade in the GPRSII ✓ Analysing the impact of trade policy on poverty <p>The overall aim is to mainstream trade policies into agricultural production and marketing in order to improve the agricultural sector.</p> <p>The launch was attended by the Deputy Minister and Director of the Ministry of Food and Agriculture. The Director of the Ministry of Trade & Industries was also present. Other distinguished members who attended the launch include a Former Supreme Court Judge, Members of Parliament, the FAO Country Representative as well as experts in the agriculture and trade sectors and other auxiliary groups such as exporters and importers. The Research Team for the Project, made up of Senior Lecturers of the Department of Agric. Economics at the University of Ghana was also introduced. The experts gave varied views on how Ghana's Trade Policy can be improved to benefit the economy. The project is ongoing with data collection of the three main crops being studied (Cocoa, Rice and Pineapple) almost complete.</p> <p>Executives - 5 Experts-40</p>

	Executive, Legislature, Judiciary	Constitutional Reforms	<p>The Constitutional Reform Project by the IEA has already begun. Under The Institute's Ghana Political Parties' Programme, a Democracy Consolidation Strategy Paper (DCSP), a product of a two year research and consultative process, was finalised and launched in October 2008. The consultations were done with both national and regional stakeholders including the Office of the President, the Chief Justice, Speaker and Leaders of Parliament as well as Ministers of State. These extensive consultations brought out major gaps/ challenges in the 1992 Constitution which need to be reviewed. Some of the identified gaps which have been outlined in the DCSP include the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ The Constitution as a hybrid of Presidential and Parliamentary systems of government and the appointment of a majority of Ministers from Parliament ✓ The coupling of the Office of the Attorney General with that of the Minister of Justice ✓ The absence of a cap on the number of Supreme Court Judges that may be appointed ✓ The duplication of functions between state institutions such as CHRAJ and SFO on anti-corruption issues and CHRAJ, NCCE and EC on public education, etc. <p>Fortunately, the DCSP made proposals for reforms and one of the major recommendations of the document which is the establishment of a Constitutional Review Committee was mentioned by all the Presidential Candidates who participated in The IEA Presidential Debates and Evening Encounters. The IEA has thus begun negotiations for a possible collaboration with the current government to undertake this national exercise. This is to help ensure an inclusive process so that the reforms would be accepted and owned by all stakeholders. At a recent visit by a delegation of the IEA/GPPP to the President, members of the delegation reminded the President of his earlier mention of government's interest in the constitutional reforms. He was also informed that The IEA had already commenced work on the issue and The Institute was willing to coordinate the Constitutional Review Process. The President re-assured the delegation of his government's commitment to the reforms and promised to accord it all the necessary attention it deserves. The IEA is therefore lobbying government continuously for the start of the Constitutional Review Process.</p> <p>During the period under review, the Standing Orders Committee of Parliament commissioned the IEA to review the Standing Orders in the</p>
	Legislature	Review of the Standing Orders of Parliament	

	Executive, Legislature and Judiciary	<p>Review of the 2008 Presidential Transition Bill (Ended)</p> <p>2009 Revised Presidential Transition Bill (Completed)</p>	<p>august House. Fifteen areas were mentioned for IEA to make inputs into. These include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Interpretation of the Orders ✓ General Contempt of Parliament ✓ Statements by Members ✓ Petitions ✓ Voting in the House with regards to division ✓ Scope or remit of committees, etc <p>The review is being carried out to produce Standing Orders that would regulate and govern proceedings in the House in a more effective way.</p> <p>The Presidential Transition Bill seeks to regulate the transfer of power from one democratically-elected government to another. The evolution of the draft Bill involved a very elaborate consultative process of a study, findings, recommendations, discussions, drafting, validation and re-drafting covering well over one and a half years. The Draft Bill acted as the blueprint for the transitional processes between January and March, 2009. The IEA used the experience of the 2009 transition to work further on the Draft Bill. Views were solicited from the 2009 Transition Team on the use of the Draft Bill after which several meetings were held with various stakeholders, political parties and CSOs. The 2008 Bill was thus subjected to rigorous critique and amendment which has culminated in the Presidential Transition Bill 2009. Additional considerations which the new Bill seeks to address include the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Conflict Resolution in which an Advisory Committee will play an intermediary role to ensure compromise between out-going and in-coming officials ✓ Inventory and Stock-taking where the Bill proposes the appointment of an Administrative General in charge of the Presidential Estates Unit to take inventory of all state assets ✓ Vacation of Official Residence where Clause 10 provides clear deadlines by which time former officials should have vacated their official residences ✓ Officials ceasing to hold office. Under this consideration, the categories of officers who have to vacate their position when there is a change in government should be defined by law <p>Copies of the new Presidential Transition Bill have been presented by The IEA to the President and the Attorney General. The President therefore made mention of the Bill and</p>
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			his commitment to see its passage into law when he delivered his maiden sessional address to Parliament. It is hoped that when the Bill is finally passed into law, the acrimony and political tension that characterises Governmental Transitions in Ghana would be reduced drastically.
Coalition, network			
Peers CBOs	The Ghana Political Parties Programme, ABANTU for Development, FIDA-Ghana	Research and Advocacy Strategies for Developing Female Candidates for Primary and National Elections	<p>In its efforts to help increase the number of women in politics, The IEA set out to conduct research into the low female participation in politics. The research culminated in a Draft Women's Manual which outlines the following five major points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Ghana has to take deliberate positive steps, enact laws and adopt affirmative action favouring women and other vulnerable groups at the political party and national level. ✓ There should be a monitoring and an evaluation system to ensure implementation of such enacted laws ✓ Lobbying and advocacy by interest groups should continue against the hierarchical patriarchal systems that reinforce the status quo of marginalisation of women ✓ Practical and structural obstacles of gender inequality that exist in all facets of our society would have to give way to an institutionalised transformation that establishes genderised structures ✓ Legislative and political regulations should be designed to implement effective quota mechanisms <p>In furtherance of this work, The IEA collaborated with the Canadian High Commission to organise a workshop for the executives of the four Political Parties with representation in Parliament and key Female Party Members. The objective of the workshop was to help participants reflect upon and draw useful insights on the challenges faced by their female candidates in primary and national elections. This was necessary especially in the wake of the reduction in the number of female parliamentarians who were elected in the 2008 elections. The participants were also to define and commit to a strategy and plan of action for increasing the numbers and building the quality of their female candidates for</p>

			<p>elections. Finally, the workshop was to help finalise the Women's Manual by reviewing the strategies and outlining a plan of Action. The two Resource Persons were the Executive Directors of ABANTU for Development and FIDA-Ghana with the Facilitator from the University of Ghana.</p> <p>At the end of the two day workshop, the Political Party Executives prepared and signed a Joint Communiqué to commit to the strategies which are to help increase female participation in politics. In particular, they resolved to implement Affirmative Action and establish a Voluntary Quota of 30% for women in order to address the imbalances in representation.</p> <p>Political Parties- 16 Resource Persons – 3</p>
<p>Donor agencies</p>	<p>Netherlands Institute for Multiparty Democracy (NIMD)</p> <p>International Development Research Centre (IDRC)</p>	<p>Strengthening of Multiparty Political Systems (Ongoing)</p> <p>Independent and Innovative Research Policy</p>	<p>The Institute continues to collaborate with the NIMD on its Ghana Political Parties Programme. The programme aims at levelling the playing field for Political Parties, building the institutional capacity of Political Parties and improving the image of Political Parties in the eyes of the public. During the period under review, all the monthly meetings for the Chairmen's Caucus and the Platform of General Secretaries and Policy Analysts were held. The meetings have provided a platform for a thorough and dispassionate review and discussion of the 2008 general elections, its challenges and the way forward. At the meetings, there were also thorough discussions of action plans of the Political Parties. Other issues which the Caucus and Platform members have deliberated on include the use of The IEA/GPPP Draft Presidential Transition Bill for the 2009 Governmental Transition, Constitutional Reforms as outlined in the DCSP as well as a capacity training workshop that was organised for the Political Parties by the Berenschoft Group.</p> <p>The Political Party Executives also continue to hold discussions with institutions of State such as the Electoral Commission and the National Commission for Civic Education on consolidating democracy in Ghana.</p> <p>The IEA received two visits from the IDRC within this reporting period. The essence of the visits was to analyse the systems in place and the capacity of The Institute to utilise funds to carry out its core mandate. Consequent to the visit, The IEA answered a call for proposal from the IDRC. It is refreshing to note that The Institute</p>

	<p>Governance Group of the Donor Community (UNDP, DFID, USAID, DANIDA, SIDA, CIDA, EU, BHC, CHC, Netherlands, Embassy)</p>	<p>Implementation of Strategies in the DCSP</p>	<p>was one of the only two Institutions which was selected and approved among thirteen applications from Ghana. This has resulted in support to The Institute to carry out research activities to influence policy formulation.</p> <p>Another positive fall out from the IDRC visit was an invitation to the Administrator of the IEA, Mrs Jean Mensa to participate in a forum of African Think Tanks who work in the area of policy research in Senegal. The Administrator used the opportunity to share some achievements of The IEA in shaping policy direction in Ghana through platforms such the Presidential Debates, Evening Encounters and Production of the Presidential Transition Bill. Her presentation generated a lot of interest and afforded her the opportunity to be interviewed by the VOA. The interview was thus aired by this worldwide network and can also be found at the VOA website (http://www.voanews.com/english/archieve/2009-05/2009-05-14).</p> <p>This has further resulted in invitations from other policy institutes across the world to The IEA to share the Ghanaian experience.</p> <p>The IEA met with the Governance Group of the Donor Community to discuss the implementation process of strategies mapped out in the DCSP. The discussions highlighted and outlined aspects of the document which the donors are interested in funding. A particular aspect that generated a lot of interest among the donors was the Constitutional Reform Processes that The IEA is working on. The Institute is therefore following up with the Governance Group to secure the support for the facilitation of the Constitutional Review Process and other Reforms.</p>
<p>DA (please indicate district)</p>			
<p>Private Sector</p>	<p>Association of Ghana Industries (AGI), Members of the Business Community, Private Enterprises Foundation (PEF), Economists, Academia, Barclays</p>	<p>Research and Advocacy on the Global Financial Crisis</p>	<p>The IEA initiated research on the Global Financial Crisis in the Prior Period. Following from the initial paper that was produced, extensive investigations were done into the differential impacts of the Crisis on Ghana. A detailed and comprehensive research Paper has now been produced which outlines the following recommendations among others to mitigate the impact of the crisis on the poor in Ghana.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Achieving sustained high growth with stability which can be done through reforms in the public sector, development of infrastructure as well as support to the

	Bank, Standard Chartered Bank		<p>agriculture sector and domestic industries</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Strengthening of the financial sector through provision of credit to small and medium sized business and other informal activities ✓ Mobilising resources for growth and poverty reduction through domestic resource mobilisation e.g. Domestic Capital Markets, Broadening of the Tax Net, Issuing of Bonds, etc ✓ Future Relationships with the Bretton Woods Institutions (BWIs). Ghana should be more proactive to look for other sources of external financing in order to graduate from IMF resources and be able to access international capital markets <p>The IEA therefore brought together various associations and bodies in the private sector to discuss these recommendations with support from CIPE. The half day seminar also sought to find out practical ways in which these recommendations can be implemented to alleviate the impact of the crisis on the most vulnerable in the country.</p> <p>Participants - 60</p>
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3. National pro-poor policies

Identified Policy Issue: (In all these identified Policy Issues, continuous lobbying, continuous advocacy, regular organisation of Policy fora and media outreach programmes were embarked upon for maximum stakeholder buy-in)	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
Articulating and Mainstreaming Agricultural Trade Policies	<p>Research on three major products is almost complete. The products which form the focus of the research study are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Cocoa representing a traditional commodity, ✓ Rice representing an import commodity 	No coordination between the two major Ministries working on the issue, i.e. the Ministries of Food and Agriculture and Trade and Industry. There are major contradictions in the Ghana Trade Policy	The need for the relevant ministries to coordinate their activities to avoid duplication and agree on consensus on trade policies	Government to always adopt policies which are in the interest of the country to ensure that farmers are able to sell their products. Policies should suit the Ghanaian situation and not be dictated by Development Partners.

	<p>and</p> <p>✓ Pineapple as a non-traditional export commodity</p> <p>Initial findings have been shared with stakeholders in the relevant sectors. Inputs from the stakeholders</p>			
Inclusive Democratic Dispensation through increase female participation in politics	The Women's Manual which was used as the reference document was produced out of extensive research and consultations	Lack of commitment to gender issues	The need to streamline gender in the development of policies	Government should implement the international laws and protocols on gender that the country has signed on to.
Differential Impacts of the Global Financial Crisis	The detailed research paper that has been produced incorporates extensive consultations with stakeholders as well as a scientific analysis of the impacts of the Crisis	The impact of the Global Financial Crisis on Ghana has not been looked at holistically	Specific policies should be made to tackle the adverse effects of the crisis on especially the poor and most vulnerable in society	Poverty reduction programmes should be streamlined to target those who need them the most
Assessing the Gaps between the Health Status of Rural and Urban Women in Ghana	The research was conducted using Maternity data at a Mission Hospital in the Kuntense district of the Ashanti	Rural women have poorer health status than urban women. Additionally, improvement in health is more likely to occur among urban women than among their rural counterparts	More health resources should be allocated to women in the rural areas to improve their health status. This would enable them to continue to contribute to the agricultural sector where they are predominantly found	Government through the Ministry of Health should improve the maternal health status of rural women by paying special attention to the incidence of haemorrhage
Determinants of Technical Efficiency of Women Entrepreneurs in the Food Processing Enterprises	The study was conducted to find out the level of technical efficiency of women food processors in Cape Coast	Improvement is needed in the provision of electricity, water and equipments for the women food processors since they affect the value of	The significant determinants of technical efficiency found among the women food processors were: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ The level of education ✓ Number of children 	Government should design policies to concentrate on the aforementioned significant determinants of technical efficiency to alleviate poverty among women food

		output.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Access to credit and ✓ Adoption of new and efficient technologies at the work place 	processors
A Survey of some Ghanaian schools on Students' Views of Mathematics as a subject	A Questionnaire Survey of 800 Junior and Senior High Students was used to conduct the study in the Ashanti and Brong Ahafo Regions.	Students continue to perceive Mathematics as the most difficult subject aside English	More attention should be paid to students at the JHS and SHS levels since the interest in mathematics dropped noticeably at SHS	Curriculum Planners and Frontline Teachers should factor students needs and aspirations of the teaching and learning of mathematics into future curriculum reform and implementation
Understanding the causes and impacts of conflicts in Northern Ghana	The Konkomba inter-ethnic conflicts were used as a case study to investigate the causes and impacts of conflicts in the north	Lack of adequate measures in place to forestall the eruption of a major conflict in Northern Ghana in the near future	There is enough evidence to suggest that all the ethnic groups that were involved in the major conflict in 1994 are stock piling arms to be used in the event of another ethnic war	There should be measures to end the struggle over paramountcy and control of land which are the major sources of conflict in Northern Ghana

4. Success Story

Briefly describe your organisation's landmark achievement this period

The work of the IEA achieved significant recognition during this reporting period.

- First and foremost, the **2008 Draft Presidential Transition Bill** which was produced by The Institute through an elaborate consultative process served as the blueprint for the 2009 Transition Processes between January and March. Usually, the lack of a Transitional Document brings about tension and acrimony between out-going and in-coming government officials. However, the Draft Transitional Bill by The IEA provided guidelines for the teams, thereby facilitating the processes and reducing tension. The Institute has worked further to incorporate issues that cropped up during this recent transition into the Bill. An updated **2009 Presidential Transition Bill** has therefore been produced and copies have already been presented to the President and Attorney General. The Government has indicated its intention to discuss the Bill at Cabinet and present it to Parliament for passage into law.
- Secondly, The IEA received a special mention during President Mills' first State of the Nation's Address to Parliament. Touching on governance, the President admitted that several areas of the country's governance agenda require legislative intervention. He then indicated that The IEA sponsored Ghana Political Parties' Programme which is made up of all the parties with representation in Parliament has agreed on several Draft Bills that will respond to the identified needs. He said the Government will therefore consider the Draft Bills by The IEA namely **Public Financing of Political Parties Bill, a new Political Parties Bill and the**

Presidential Transition Bill. The IEA is obviously pleased with this level of commitment on the part of the President to strengthen the Pillars of Ghana's Multi-Party Democracy. The Institute is therefore engaging in continuous lobbying for possible parliamentary enactment in order to fill the legislative void. The IEA has been investing in the country's growing democracy over the past five years through its governance programme and is highly motivated to intensify the work by this national recognition and the imminent passage of the Draft Bills of The Institute into Law.

- Other programmes by The IEA which have had several positive outcomes are the **Presidential Debates** and **Evening Encounters** that were organised by The Institute for the Presidential Candidates in the prior reporting period. The Debates and Evening Encounters shifted the focus of the 2008 Presidential Campaign from one of personalities to pertinent issues within the socio-economic landscape of the country. The Presidential Candidates used the platforms provided by the programmes to make pledges on several issues including gender equality, anti-corruption and job creation. This important work by The IEA is providing a background for holding the current administration accountable. For instance, many of the RAOs who work on some of the thematic areas which the current President promised to work on have been demanding the fulfilment of such promises.
 - ✓ Of particular mention is the President's pledge to give 40% of the positions in his administration to women. Women's groups such as Women in Law and Development (WILDAF) therefore met with the President to remind him to honour this pledge made during The IEA programmes. When this was not done, WILDAF organised a match to draw attention to the issue and it is gratifying to note that, subsequent appointments to the various Boards of Public Institutions include many women.
 - ✓ In addition, the Ghana Integrity Initiative (GII) has also referred several times to the President's promise to ensure that all officials in his government declare their assets within the first week of their appointment during The Presidential Debates and Evening Encounters. GII is also holding the government accountable on this pledge to help check corruption by government officials.
- Finally, The IEA chalked another first through its Ghana Political Parties programme during the period under review. For the first time in the country's political history, the leadership of both the governing and opposition political parties **paid a visit to the president** at the castle. The purpose of the visit was for The IEA to express gratitude to the president for participating in the Presidential Debates and Evening Encounters. The delegation also used the opportunity to remind him to fulfil the promises he made on the two platforms especially the passage of the Draft Bills prepared by The Institute into law. The occasion was again used to stress on The Institute's interest in a collaboration with government on the Constitutional Review Processes that it had started working on. The President was grateful for that historic visit and promised to give serious attention to the issues raised by the delegation. The visit was reported extensively by both the print and electronic media. As usual, this show of camaraderie displayed by the opposing political parties helped to reduce the high political tension between the leading political parties in the country at the time.

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?

Within the first six months of the new NDC Government, the credibility and legitimacy of RAO's has improved tremendously. The new Government is much more willing to collaborate with RAOs in policy formulation and in finding solutions to the myriad of problems facing the country. This is demonstrated by the commitment on the part of the President to work with RAOs and implement recommendations which have been outlined from the research work of these policy organisations.

One such institute whose work within the policy arena has received high credibility and recognition is The IEA. In the course of its work with the four political parties with representation in parliament, The Institute has always displayed a high sense of neutrality. The Institute also engages in elaborate

consultations with all relevant stakeholders before coming up with findings and recommendations on various research topics. The findings are therefore deemed credible and thus accepted by all.

- This was confirmed when the government willingly used The IEA Presidential Transition Bill to guide the 2009 Transitional Processes. As has already been mentioned, the use of this document ensured a relatively smooth transition. This is commendable since government's acceptance and use of the Bill prepared by an independent think tank demonstrates the state's recognition of the important role played by civil society in democratic consolidation.
- This recognition of the indispensable role played by RAOs was re-echoed when the President openly declared his commitment to work with three important Bills produced by The IEA during his first state of the nation's address to Parliament. This is unprecedented in the history of the nation and shows how far RAOs have come in their contribution to policy formulation in the country.
- Moreover, the high level of legitimacy accorded RAOs has resulted in the new government's willingness to engage in Constitutional Reforms as recommended by The IEA in the Democracy Consolidation Strategy Paper (DCSP) produced by The Institute. As a matter of fact, The Institute is negotiating with government for a possible collaboration to undertake the reforms and this could only be due to the high credibility enjoyed by RAOs in the country as a whole.
- Furthermore, the President for the first time in the annals of the country's history willingly accepted to meet with the leadership of the governing and opposition political parties. This is because the meeting was facilitated by The IEA through its Ghana Political Parties' Programme which discusses critical national issues in a non-partisan and objective manner. Discussions at the meeting were fruitful and have laid the foundation for future interactions.
- Aside the presidency, The IEA was also commissioned by Parliament to review the Standing Orders in the House during this reporting period. The House expressed total confidence in the ability of The Institute to carry out this exercise creditably and this shows that RAOs are seen as legitimate by all the different arms of the state.

These positive developments are encouraging since they open up the space for the participation of RAOs in nation building.

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

The policy making environment in Ghana continues to be ad-hoc in nature. There is limited research influencing the policy environment and the lack of a National Development Plan continues to affect the policies in the country especially when there is a change in government as we have now. Nevertheless, the groundbreaking research projects carried out by RAOs such as The IEA continue to play an important role in mitigating the effects of these loopholes on the national scene.

7. Grant and report related issues

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

As stated in the previous report, The Institute regrets that the funding provided under the G-RAP grant has been reduced substantially. Even though The Institute has managed to secure some funding from

other sources, the drastic reduction in the core funds from G-RAP affected some research and advocacy outputs of The Institute. The clarification meeting between the Project Management Team and RAOs was very important since it brought up salient items to be included in the Progress Report. The Institute continues to seek for funds from other sources to be able to constantly carry out its core mandate with the Administrator now fully responsible for fundraising at The Institute.

[d6] 7.2 What parts of the report are confidential or cannot be shared without prior consent?

None

G-rap Narrative Progress Report

Notes on narrative reporting

In addition to this narrative report, G-rap accepts grantee organisation's own annual report, on the assumption that these reports show a relationship between annual workplans, budgets and outputs of these organisations and – if possible – impact.

G-rap however monitors a number of indicators that a Grantee's annual report may not always focus on and have designed a simple narrative reporting format to gather this data. This gives the programme managers a quick overview of progress against workplan of each grantee and of significant results in a number of relevant areas relating to the Logical Framework and objectives of the Programme.

G-rap intends to minimize Grantee's time investments in reporting, hence this concise format. Nonetheless, additional documentation can be annexed to the report for more detail.

Narrative reporting is a bi-annual contractual requirement. The deadline for report submission is four weeks after the end of the reporting period.

Completed reports need to be submitted in signed hard copy (2 signatures), as well as in electronic format using MS-Word 2003 compatible software (to: info.grap.ghana@gmail.com).