

ANNEX 2

Core Grant Narrative Progress Report

Report Period January to June 2010

Contract Ref. No. 04/Core/69/GDCA

Organisation Ghana Developing Communities Association

Contact Tel. No. 037 2025563

Report Date 25 June 2010

Report Prepared by: Rosemond Kumah, Prog. Adv. & Comm. Offr. **Report Approved by** Osman Abdel-Rahman, Exec. Secr.

Signature & date

Signature & date

91221

=====
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) Leadership	7		7	7
ii) Core staff	74		76	76

iii) <i>Support staff</i>	51		51	51
2. Governance				
i) <i>Board</i>	9		9	9
ii) <i>Committees</i>	41		41	41
iii) <i>Documented Board and Management meetings</i>	2		2	2
iv) <i>Staff meetings</i>	2		2	2
	6		6	6
3. Systems and procedures				
<i>Financial management systems</i>				
1. <i>Programme activities to overhead ratio</i>	5.6		5.6	5.6
2. <i>Total turnover for the period in US\$</i>	2,030,100		2,030,100	2,030,100
3. <i>Total number of donors for the period</i>	6	6	7	7
4. <i>Internal controls</i>	0	0	1	1(internal auditor)
5. <i>External audit</i>	yearly	1	1	1
<i>Operational policies</i>				
1. <i>HR policy</i>	HR Manual	HR Manual	i. Not more than 2 in a department can go for further studies at the same time.	i. Not more than 2 in a department can go for further studies at the same time.
2. <i>Gender strategy/action plan and milestones</i>	None	None	i. A process to develop a gender policy that will spell out the action plan is in progress. Staff have met to outline the gender gaps with the support from G-RAP. A number of	i. A process to develop a gender policy that will spell out the action plan is in progress. Staff have met to outline the gender gaps with support from

<p>3. <i>Budget spent of gender for the period</i></p>	-	-	<p>consultants with skills in gender processes and strategies have been contacted but no final selection yet.</p> <p>ii. Tackling issues of WID-empowering/preparing women's to perform/participate in decision-making, including training and awareness creation on Domestic Violence, Widowhood rites.</p> <p>iii, Gender has been on the agenda of management and Board meetings</p> <p>iv. A strategic workshop of Management and Board identified gender as a possible brand to be developed into a programme.</p> <p>3,484 USD</p>	<p>G-RAP. A number of consultants with skills in gender processes and strategies have been contacted but no final selection yet.</p> <p>ii. Tackling issues of WID-empowering/preparing women's to perform/participate in decision-making, including training and awareness creation on Domestic Violence, Widowhood rites.</p> <p>iii, Gender has been on the agenda of management and Board meetings</p> <p>iv. A strategic workshop of Management and Board identified gender as a possible brand to be developed into a programme.</p> <p>3,484 USD</p>
<p>4. Funding base development</p> <p>1. <i>List long-term programmes(3yrs +)</i></p>	<p>Long-term programmes</p> <p>i. CBO Empowerment Project ii. CLIP iii. School for Life programme iv. Literacy for Life</p>	<p>Long-term programmes</p> <p>i. CBO Empowerment Project ii. CLIP iii. School for Life programme iv. Literacy for Life change project</p>	<p>Long-term programmes</p> <p>i. Empowerment for Life programme (replaced CBO, SfL and CLIP) ii. Literacy for Life change project iii. GoG-UNDP MSME Project iv.Support for Women's Participation in Elections (SWOPE)</p>	<p>Long-term programmes</p> <p>i. Empowerment for Life programme (replaced CBO, SfL and CLIP) ii. Literacy for Life change project iii. GoG-UNDP MSME Project iv.Support for Women's</p>

<p>2. <i>List short-term projects(1 year)</i></p> <p>3. <i>Total dollar volume of programmes [d1]</i></p> <p>4. <i>Approved dollar volumes[d2]</i></p> <p>5. <i>Percentage overhead recovery[d3]</i></p>	<p>change project v. GoG-UNDP MSME Project</p> <p>i. Community Empowerment for Landuse (CEfLA) ii. G-RAP Core Grants</p> <p>-</p> <p>-</p> <p>-</p>	<p>v. GoG-UNDP MSME Project</p> <p>i. Community Empowerment for Landuse (CEfLA) ii. G-RAP Core Grants</p> <p>-</p> <p>-</p> <p>-</p>	<p>i. Community Empowerment for Landuse (CEfLA) ii. G-RAP Core Grants iii. G-RAP Oil and Gas Project</p> <p>2,000,000 (approx.)</p> <p>-</p> <p>-</p>	<p>Participation in Elections (SWOPE)</p> <p>i. Community Empowerment for Landuse (CEfLA) ii. G-RAP Core Grants iii. G-RAP Oil and Gas Project</p> <p>2,000,000 (approx.)</p> <p>-</p> <p>-</p>
<p>List number of publications (policy briefs, briefing papers, research reports, programme reviews)</p>	<p>i. Savannah Advocate; A bi-annual Newsletter of GDCA. Jan-June 2010</p>	<p>ii. The Extent of Gravel and Sand Mining and its Effects on Communities in Northern Region (Draft Research Report)</p>		

- 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 [E.O.4]
Government - executive - judiciary - legislature	National Commission for Civic Education	i. African Peer Review Mechanism/enhancing participation of citizens in the APR ii. Child Protection Network working towards addressing child survival and issues	i. Assessment of progress on APRM indicators, draft report prepared ii. Child protection strategy is being developed.
Coalition, network	Platform of NGOs working in Environment Platform of CSOs in Oil and Gas (Publish What You Pay/ISODEC) Savannah Natural Resources and Environment Coalition (SANREC) Accountability and Good Governance Network (AGNet)	CSO perspectives on policies and programmes of Government on Environment and Climate Change Policies on Oil and Gas find in Ghana Environment Good Governance	1. Communique on issues on the environment, and climate change; 2. Draft report on CSOs on state of the environment to be put forward at the next review later in the year. Review of draft legislation on Oil and Gas management Coming together to present a common voice on environment and natural resources issues in Northern Ghana; Draft constitution in place Coalition has worked to present a proposal on Oil and Gas effects in Northern Region.

Peers CBOs	Local Organization and Mobilization (CBO Network)	<p>Good Governance Accountability forums on National Health Insurance Scheme (NHIS), National School Feeding Programme (NFP)/Capitation Grants (CG) and National Youth Employment Programme (NYEP)</p> <p>Fulani Herdsmen: Cause destruction of farms etc. On-going.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assessment of performance and progress of programmes • Assessment of challenges associated with implementation of the programmes <p>More pressure is being put on government to regulate activities of the herdsmen.</p>
	SEND – Ghana	<p>SADA - Coming together to put pressure on government to released promised funds to develop the Savannah North. Still on-going.</p>	<p>Press statement released. More CSO are aware of the situation and have joined in spreading the news through the internet.</p>
	Ghana Anti-Corruption Coalition.	<p>Whistle Blowing Act On-going</p>	<p>Enhanced understanding of how the law works and CSO encouraged to report corruption.</p>
	The Ghana National Education Campaign Coalition & Northern Network for Education Development	<p>Campaigning for the implementation of the Complementary Basic Education (CBE) Policy. On-going</p>	<p>GNECC has picked up the issue to be added to their position paper for the National Education Sector Review meeting.</p> <p>Again GES has agreed to place the CBE under Basic Education Directorate instead of Non-formal Division as stated in the Draft Education Sector Review document.</p>
	Food for Life Think Tank	<p>Food Security and Climate Change</p>	<p>A think tank, bringing together experts in the areas of food security, climate change and environment has been formed. This is meant to foster a concerted approach to helping farmers tackle the issues of fodd insecurity through adaptation and adoption of climate resilient technologies</p>

Donor agencies	Royal Danish Embassy/Danish Forum/Coalition of Danish NGOs	Danish NGO of	Learn and share experiences to enhance programme outcomes. On-going	Improved strategies and achievement of project goals; COP 15 Danish Development strategy
	EU Delegation		A new proposal for women's participation in elections	Project approved. Awaiting funds disbursement
DA (please indicate district)	Savelugu-Nanton, Tolon-Kumbungu and Tamale Metro		District Environmental Management Committees	District Environmental Management Committees revived and meeting
	Yendi Municipal, East Gonja DA, Nanumba North DA, and tolon-Kumbugu DA.		Establish District Partner Platforms	Two partners meetings have been held in two districts
Private Sector	Media Houses in Tamale		Orientation of media on programmes	Programmes of GDCA explained for the understanding of media personnel. Challenges of working with the media were discussed.

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
Environment	Assessing the impact of	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> limited recognition 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Inclusion of 	The NREG programme should

	indiscriminate sand and gravel mining on the environment and the livelihoods of communities in the Northern region conducted within the Environment sub sector of the Natural Resources and Environment Governance (NREG) programme.	<p>for Traditional Authorities as partners in Environment protection</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Non – enforcement of environmental regulations • poorly resourced environmental agencies • Non -functional local level environmental structures 	<p>specific roles for TAs in policy frameworks e.g national land policy, Forest and Wildlife Policy.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strengthening of environmental agencies would ensure proper protection of the environment. 	<p>recognised and include local level structures in implementation. Desertification should be recognised as a subsector in subsequent NREG programme. To achieve this GDCA has liased with other organizations to form the Savannah Natural Resources and Environmental Governance Coalition (SANREC) for a coordinated advocacy in that direction.</p>
Local Organization and Mobilization (LOM)	The Organization organized accountability fora in different localities within Northern region during the period, with the to create a platform for information gathering and dissemination	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Centralization of the issuance of the National Insurance ID Cards • Weak administration of the School Feeding • Politicization of the (NYEP) Programmes and the Capitation Grants 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Decentralization of the issuance of the NHIS Cards • De-politicization of the NYEP • Proper policy administrative procedures for the School Feeding programme and the Capitation grant 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provision of policy guidelines on the de-politicization of the implementation of these policies

4. Success Story

Briefly describe your organisation's landmark achievement this period

For the first time, we created more synergy in our activities across the 14 districts. Different sub-components come together to plan and carry-out cross-cutting activities (Gender, HIV, Environment and Governance) under what is known as “One-stop-shop”

Also we have for the first time tried to firm up our media relations with some identified media houses, a move that involves management of those media houses and not the usual individual relationship. This will support our advocacy work at all levels (community, district, regional and national).

The idea of Food security through a programme called Food for Life has taken shape and being supported by the academia in Agriculture as well as the community in which the programme is being experimented. The move seeks to blend academics and practice to the benefit of the local farmer.

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?

Government of Ghana through its agencies, MOE and GES see SfL's methodology as a unique one that can help Ghana address the out-of-children problem and have even indicated that SfL will be a resource for the implementation of the CBE programme in Ghana.

In the eyes of the public, particularly our target communities, GDCA and its affiliates have a large constituency and other communities that have not yet benefited from the programmes request to be considered. For example many CBO's are ready to speak out on behalf of their communities and many parents now see the value of sending their wards to school since their children are of help to them when they are most needed and are also attend school and can read well.

During the various encounters with the stakeholders on above policy issues, most of them felt very much that they had been given the chance and the opportunity to give account of the work they are doing to facilitate the implementation of various policies at the grass root. Whereas most community people felt that the various policies were not working well enough in their favour, the stakeholders regarded the feedback as a booster for proper policy implementation.

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

Since Ghana returned to constitutional democracy in 1992, the practice of constitutionalism has become entrenched in the country over the years. However, implementation of policy processes in Ghana still has some way to go. The major challenge of these policies and processes appears to be the politicization of many policy issues in Ghana.

It takes unnecessarily long time to take-off even if all processes for making a policy are through. In the case of the CBE, even though the policy has gone through all the processes, the will-power to start is lacking. In some cases the funds to roll out the action plans are not there since most MMDAs are highly un-resourced.

7. Grant and report related issues

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

The deadline for reporting under the G-RAP programme does not coincide with the period of the organisation's reporting. Getting data to complete the report is therefore a challenge especially that the report has to depend on data from the other programmes of the organisation. Our normal reporting is three to four weeks after the end of the reporting period, which makes it impossible to capture some up-date data in the report.

[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 work plans, 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).