

Core Grant Narrative Progress Report

Report Period January 1- June 30, 2010

Contract Ref. No.
(NETRIGHT)

Organisation Network for Women's Rights in Ghana

Contact Tel. No 0302 511189, 503669 **Report Date** June 15, 2010

Report Prepared by Ruth Aba Grant Antwi **Report Approved by** Akua Britwum

Signature & date June 30, 2010

Signature & date June 30, 2010

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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) Leadership	9	9	9	9
ii) Core staff	3	2	3	3
iii) Project Coordinator	1	1	1	1
iv) Support staff ¹	2	1	1	1
v) Volunteers ²	9	9	9	9

¹ Support staff are interns/service persons from our Ghanaian Universities. They are usually young women interested in gender equality issues.

² Volunteers are members of NETRIGHT who offer free services to NETRIGHT as part of their contribution to the Network

<p>2. Governance</p> <p>i) <i>Steering Committee</i></p> <p>ii) <i>Focal Points Meeting</i></p> <p>iii) <i>Membership Meeting</i></p> <p>iv) <i>Documented SC meetings</i></p> <p><i>Focal Points meetings</i></p> <p><i>Membership Meetings</i></p> <p><i>Staff meetings</i></p>	<p>3</p> <p>1</p> <p>2</p> <p>3</p> <p>1</p> <p>2</p> <p>6</p>	<p>3</p> <p>1</p> <p>2</p> <p>3</p> <p>1</p> <p>2</p> <p>12</p>	<p>2</p> <p>1</p> <p>2</p> <p>2</p> <p>1</p> <p>2</p> <p>5</p>	<p>3³</p> <p>1⁴</p> <p>2⁵</p> <p>3</p> <p>1</p> <p>2</p> <p>8⁶</p>
<p>3. Systems and procedures</p> <p><i>Financial management systems</i></p> <p>i) <i>Budgeting</i></p> <p>ii) <i>Accounting</i></p> <p>iii) <i>Internal control</i></p> <p>iv) <i>Financial reporting</i></p> <p>v) <i>External audit</i></p>	<p>NETRIGHT has adopted the host organisation's systems and policies to suit its own context.</p>	<p>As Before</p>	<p>As Before</p>	
<p><i>Operational policies</i></p> <p>1. <i>HR policy</i></p> <p>2. <i>Gender strategy/action plan and milestones</i></p>	<p>In accordance with host organisation's systems and policies in place</p> <p>Gender equality is the core of our work. We do not have a</p>			

³ 2 SC meeting held during period under review – February 17 and April 14, 2010. NETRIGHT meeting minutes are confidential, however we can provide highlights of meetings, dates, venue and attendance lists.

⁴ Focal Point Meeting held on May 11, 2010

⁵ Membership Meeting held on February 17 and May 12, 2010

⁶ Staff meetings held for period under review - Jan 11, Feb 5, March 19, April 15, June 21 and June 29

<p>3. <i>Budget spent of gender for the period</i></p>	<p>documented gender strategy plan.</p> <p>Gender equality is the basis for programmes. NETRIGHT does not have a gender policy because it is the core of our work</p>			
<p>4. Funding base development</p> <p>1. <i>List long-term programmes(3yrs +)</i></p> <p>2. <i>List short-term projects(1 year)</i></p> <p>3. <i>Total dollar volume of programmes [d1]</i></p>	<p>Long-term programmes</p> <p>Economic Justice Capacity Building Programme</p> <p>Gender, Oil and Gas Project</p> <p>Promoting Gender Equity In Ghana's Land Tenure Systems (ISSER-led project)</p> <p>Review of Constitutional Arrangements for Natural Resources Governance and gender and natural resource rights in Ghana (Civic Response led project)</p> <p>Long and Short term sources</p>	<p>Long-term programmes</p> <p>Economic Justice Capacity Building Programme</p> <p>Gender, Oil and Gas Project</p> <p>Promoting Gender Equity In Ghana's Land Tenure Systems (ISSER-led project)</p> <p>Review of Constitutional Arrangements for Natural Resources Governance and gender and natural resource rights in Ghana (Civic Response</p>	<p>Long-term programmes</p> <p>Economic Justice Capacity Building Programme</p> <p>Gender, Oil and Gas Project</p> <p>Promoting Gender Equity In Ghana's Land Tenure Systems (ISSER-led project)</p> <p>Review of Constitutional Arrangements for Natural Resources Governance and gender and natural resource rights in Ghana (Civic Response led project)</p>	<p>Long-term programmes</p> <p>Economic Justice Capacity Building Programme</p> <p>Gender, Oil and Gas Project</p> <p>Promoting Gender Equity In Ghana's Land Tenure Systems (ISSER-led project)</p> <p>Review of Constitutional Arrangements for Natural Resources Governance and gender and natural resource rights in Ghana (Civic Response led project)</p>

<p>4. <i>Approved dollar volumes</i>[d2]</p> <p>5. <i>Percentage overhead recovery</i>[d3]</p>	<p>based on project approvals</p>	<p>led project</p>		
<p>List number of publications (policy briefs, briefing papers, research reports, programme reviews)</p>	<p>8</p>	<p>10</p>	<p>4</p>	<p>6</p> <p>Compilation of the Yearly Review on the Status of Women in Ghana: 2003-2008</p> <p>Rethinking Feminism – A Report on Ghana’s First National Feminist Forum</p> <p>Affirming ourselves as Women – Ghana at 50 Independence Anniversary Celebration</p> <p>Social Watch Ghana Report 1996-2008: Working for Poverty Eradication and Gender Equality</p> <p>Akobon Newsletter, Vol.9, Issue 1, October 2009 on ‘Women in Politics and Decision Making’</p> <p>Akobon</p>

				<p>Newsletter, Vol.9, Issue 2, October 2009 on 'Women's Land Rights'</p> <p>Impact of Oil Discovery on Women in the Oil Communities in the Western Mining – Research</p> <p>Report on a Baseline Study of Oil and Gas Communities in Ghana</p> <p>Gender Dimensions of Ghana's Oil and Gas Policy Draft – A Review of Ghana's Oil and Gas Policy Draft</p> <p>The Impact Of Oil and Gas Discovery and Exploration on Communities With Emphasis on Women – A Review of Experiences of Oil and Gas</p>
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				Producing and Exploration Countries
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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 [E.O.4]
Government - executive - judiciary - legislature		No engagement during this period. There are plans to engage in the last quarter	
Coalition, network	Oil and Gas Stakeholders Network (OGSN)	Institutionalise and promote stakeholder adherence to the cardinal principles of good governance in Ghana's Oil and Gas industry	Maximising efforts to ensure good governance, gender equality and social justice in Ghana's oil and gas industry.
	Social Watch Ghana	Poverty eradication, gender equity and social justice (ongoing)	Reports and advocacy on poverty eradication, gender equity and social justice.
	Domestic Violence Coalition	Gender Violence (ongoing)	Awareness creation and advocacy to ensure the effective implementation of the Domestic Violence Act

	Civil Society Coalition on Land	Gender Equality and Land Reforms (ongoing)	Advocacy on gender and land reforms
	Women's Manifesto Coalition	Governance and Decision Making (ongoing process)	Supporting women's participation in governance and decision making processes.
	International and Regional Women's Networks/Coalitions	Aid Effectiveness, Development Cooperation Forum and Financing for Development (FfD) Processes (ongoing)	Maximising efforts to influence AE, FfD and DCF processes through gender lens Strong CSO monitoring of international aid for development; and accountable and transparent aid governance.
	Gender Violence Survivor Support Network (GVSSN)	Provision of mutual support and assistance to survivors of gender-based violence	Enhance awareness and deeper understanding of the impact of violence on survivors available community resources
Peers CBOs	Civic Response	Review of Constitutional Arrangements for Natural Resources Governance and gender and natural resource rights in Ghana	Stronger, more articulate and more strategic civil society natural and gender responsive resource rights movement with stronger advocacy tools.
	NETRIGHT Constitutional Review Working Group	Review of Constitutional provisions for Gender Equity and Women's Rights	Legally enshrined provisions for gender equality and women's rights

	Ghana Statistical Service	Engendering the Ghana 2010 census process	Gender Responsive aggregated national data
Donor agencies			
DA (please indicate district)			
Private Sector	ISSER/ActionAid	Promoting Gender Equity In Ghana's Land Tenure Systems	Equitable Land Tenure Systems for Sustainable Livelihoods

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
Land Tenure Reforms	Review Existing secondary literature on women's land rights	The terms of land acquisition do not confer control and tenure security to women	Land reforms that would address competing land tenure interests and tenure insecurities of women	A gender equitable land tenure system through information dissemination and policy advocacy for promoting women's land rights.
Oil and Gas	Review of Oil and Gas draft Policy, Local Content Bill, Petroleum Regulatory Bill and Revenue Management Bill	Lack of gender focus	Strong stakeholder consultation and participation in the formulation and implementation of policies in the sector including social groups and women's rights and gender	Gender responsive policies in the sector for gender equitable development

Natural Resources Section of the Constitution	Review of Constitutional Provisions for natural resources governance	little recognition of commons' rights and little explicit recognition of collective or socio-economic rights in the Constitution	oriented organisations A more socially just and productive ground rules for resource relations in Ghana	Strengthened community and public rights over natural resources in Ghana.

4. Success Story

Briefly describe your organisation's landmark achievement this period

The Network for Women's Rights in Ghana (NETRIGHT) is a coalition of women's rights organisations/networks and individuals. The main mission of NETRIGHT is to promote women's rights in Ghana through critical analysis of the gender dimensions of national processes and policies and advocacy for policy change.

The Steering Committee (SC) is made up of nine (9) members and provides the leadership direction of the network. The current Convenor Akua Britwum officially took over from Rose Mensah-Kutin on February 1, 2010. Dorcas Coker-Appiah is the Deputy Convenor.

The NETRIGHT Secretariat is run by Programme Officers who see to the day-to-day administration and workplan of the network under the supervision of the Convenors. The Programme Officers are assisted by a programme assistant and interns. NETRIGHT's activities/programmes are implemented in the regions through focal points/persons who work closely with the Secretariat to ensure that NETRIGHT maintains a stronger presence in the regions.

During the period under review, NETRIGHT's landmark achievements were realised through the following activities undertaken in its core areas of work namely economic justice, land rights and movement building.

Economic Justice

NETRIGHT's economic justice work is divided into sub-themes: Economic Justice and Capacity Building Programme (EJCBP), Gender Budgeting, Financial and Food crises, Informal Economy/Women Traders, Social Watch, Gender and Trade as well as Gender, Oil and Gas Project.

The following activities were implemented during the period:

Economic Justice Capacity Building Programme (EJCBP)

The one week intensive course which was on Gender Analysis and Economics had the following objectives:

- to build the foundations for a three year capacity building programme for strengthening analysis of economic policy from a gender perspective
- To identify various forms of gender inequality in the global and national economy
- To provide opportunities for critical collective analysis of our different lived experiences, as women and men, of the economy from a gender perspective
- To examine different ways of thinking and analyzing the economy, from a gender perspective, for positioning and action
- To map the terrain for advocacy

The workshop which brought together 27 participants including gender activists, students, the academia and NETRIGHT members came off on May 30 - June 6, 2010 at the Meaglent Hotel, Pantang Junction.

The organisation of the 7-day foundation workshop on building members capacity to engage economic justice has been one important landmark achievement for NETRIGHT. Participants revealed an enhanced capacity to engage macroeconomic issues through an improved understanding of economic policy framework analysis from a gender perspective. It is NETRIGHT's hope that their contributions to discussions on economic policy formulation and implementation will be enhanced.

In addition the workshop has strengthened the capacity of the network and secretariat in programme development in economic justice.

Women in the Informal Economy

NETRIGHT has been involved in the relocation of traders from the Novotel market to the Odawna market. A committee has been set up to investigate the complaints of the different women's groups in the market to ensure peaceful co-existence between the traders. Also, NETRIGHT issued a statement which called on the Accra Metropolitan Assembly (AMA) to stop the police from brutalising the women and allow them to settle and sell at the Odawna Pedestrian Market, expand the market to accommodate more traders, find a lasting solution to the problems of the traders and improve health and security conditions in the market. This has led

to series of discussions with the women's groups and other stakeholders. NETRIGHT is hopeful that the outcome would be positive. In the meantime NETRIGHT enjoys the confidence of the various women's groups.

Social Watch Ghana

NETRIGHT is the Convenor of the Social Watch Ghana and continues to lead the writing of the Social Watch Ghana Report. NETRIGHT led processes leading to the writing of the national report. Members were assigned responsibility for writing specific sections of the report. These sections were synchronised as the Ghana report. The 2010 Ghana report is on the theme "Achieving the Millennium Development Goals Targets by 2015: An Almost Elusive Goal". The report has been submitted to the global secretariat, it will be published as part of the 2010 Global Social Watch Report.

Movement Building

NETRIGHT believes that information sharing and regular meetings among its members and partners, collaboration and networking with other organisations are the most effective way to maximise resources and achieve results as well as strengthen its capacity as a network and raise the knowledge base of staff.

NETRIGHT Internal Meetings

The NETRIGHT Internal meetings which are a component of our institutional strengthening function are used to review NETRIGHT's activities, take decisions, agree on priority areas and strategise on the way forward. The internal meetings are also used to update members on the implementation of NETRIGHT's programmes and activities while members on the other hand, use the space to share their own workplan with other members. These meetings consist of Steering Committee Meetings, Membership Meetings, Focal Point Meetings and the Annual General Meeting (AGM). The following meetings were organised as scheduled in the workplan for 2010.

Membership Meetings

The Membership meetings offer a platform for NETRIGHT members to discuss issues of importance to the network and women in general. It also serves as an opportunity for the secretariat to report on activities undertaken and thus keep members informed and abreast on issues and activities of NETRIGHT. Two membership meetings were held in February and May. The meeting discussed NETRIGHT's Workplan for 2010, participation in Global forum for Women and CSW

54, the 2010 Social Watch report and NETRIGHT's engagement in the Constitutional Review process, the Economic Justice Capacity Building workshop and NETRIGHT's engagement in the relocation of traders. The meetings were used as a platform for discussing important issues of concern to women and providing information on national issues. It offered an opportunity for members to decide on areas of priority for each quarter.

Steering Committee Meetings

The Steering Committee (SC) provides the policy direction of the network and decisions made at the Annual General Meeting (AGM). In addition, SC members support the Convenors and the Secretariat to manage the network. This is done through regular and emergency meetings; retreats and online discussions on a wide range of issues that need immediate attention.

During the period under review the Steering Committee had two (2) meetings in February and April, 2010 to discuss the 2010 workplan and budget. Other issues discussed include; Global Forum for Women/UN CSW54, the 2010 Social Watch Report, Economic Justice Capacity Building workshop and how to engage in the Constitutional Review process. The SC approved the workplan and the budget for the year and constituted a Constitutional Review Committee made up of Women in Law and Development in Africa (WILDAF), LAWA Ghana Alumnae Incorporated, FIDA, AWLA and the Gender Studies and Human Rights Documentation Centre (Gender Centre) and a few individuals to review the constitution and report back to the SC.

Focal Point Meeting

The focal points represent NETRIGHT in the regions and act as a strong voice on NETRIGHT's issues and ensure that NETRIGHT has an active presence in the regions through the effective implementation of NETRIGHT's activities. Focal points/persons are responsible for articulating the issues of concern to women at the regions.

Focal point meetings are organised to give NETRIGHT and its constituencies a chance to review the relevance of their relationship, made out challenges and offer framework for enhancing the relationship. In addition, the meeting also informs Steering Committee (SC) decisions about the relationships with focal points/persons.

A focal point meeting was held in May, 2010. The meeting discussed how to improve NETRIGHT's visibility in the regions, how to involve community women in NETRIGHT's programmes and activities and pressing issues to discuss in the various regions during outreach programmes. The meeting brought out pertinent issues of concern peculiar to the regions. This led to the incorporation of local issues in

NETRIGHT's work and also informed what issues NETRIGHT would handle during outreach programmes as well as strengthen NETRIGHT's presence in the regions.

Mobilisation and Advocacy

Our mobilisation and advocacy work facilitates our advocacy and strengthens our capacity on the issues we work on. The following activities implemented enable the network to achieve the following:

International Women's Day

This year's theme was '**Equal Rights, Equal Opportunities: Progress For All**'. NETRIGHT issued a press statement to mark this year's celebration. The statement signed by the Convenor congratulated all women in Ghana for their contributions towards their own empowerment and gender equality in the face of the many barriers that confront them. It called on the Government of Ghana to translate its promises to promoting women's rights as contained in its party manifesto into concrete actions to achieve true equality for women. The statement encouraged women to demand accountability to women's rights and gender equality.

Policy Influencing and Engagement

Constitutional Review

NETRIGHT is engaged in the Constitutional Review process. A Constitutional Review Working Group made up representatives from the following organisational members of NETRIGHT; Federation of Women Lawyers (FIDA), Women in Law and Development (WILDAF), African Women Lawyers (AWLA), LAWA Ghana Incorporated and some individuals has been set up to review the constitution from a gender perspective and make proposals for change. The group has reviewed Article 17 (Equality and Freedom from Discrimination), Article 26 (cultural Rights and practices), Article 27 (women's rights) and Article 34 (Directive Principles) sections of the constitution for onward submission to the Constitutional Review Commission.

Participation in International and Local Initiatives

NETRIGHT's participation in international and national initiatives provide the occasion to learn, share experiences on how to utilise outcomes of such initiatives to promote women's rights. Below we indicate the processes NETRIGHT participated in and achievements realised:

International Initiatives

UN Commission on the Status of Women (CSW)

The 54th Session of the United Nation Commission on the Status of Women (CSW) was held in New York from March 1 -12, 2010 under the theme "**2010: Preview**"

and Appraisal of the Implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action, the Outcome of Twenty-third Special Session of the United Nations General Assembly.”

This year’s Session was dedicated to 15-year review of the implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action (1995) and the outcomes of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly (2000). The Commission focused on two thematic issues. They reviewed the implementation of the Platform for Action and the outcomes of the 23rd special session of the General Assembly, with an emphasis on the sharing of experiences and good practices with a view to overcoming remaining obstacles and new challenges. They also reviewed the framework’s contribution to shaping a gender perspective towards the full realisation of the Millennium Development Goals.

The commission adopted a declaration which reaffirmed the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action adopted at the Fourth World Conference on Women, the outcome documents of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly and the declaration of the Commission on the Status of Women on the tenth anniversary of the Fourth World Conference on Women. The outcome document reaffirmed the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action, the outcome documents of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly and the declaration of the Commission on the tenth anniversary of the Fourth World Conference on Women.

The conference brought together a large number of women and men who believe in gender equality and women’s rights of different race and colour from across the globe to share experiences and learn best practices in the implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action. It offered a rare opportunity for both young and old, activists as well as grassroots women to interact on a wide range of critical issues that affect women. The conference also served as a platform for participants to enhance their theoretical and practical ways of advocating for women’s rights as well as encourage and inspire women to keep focused on the agenda for gender equality and women’s empowerment.

On the whole, it was an opportunity for NETRIGHT to strengthen its networking and collaboration with other regional and international women’s groups and networks. The opportunity to review the Beijing Platform for Action at CSW 54, has encouraged NETRIGHT to re-strategise its engagement with government to vigorously pursue and rapidly advance gender equality and women’s empowerment agenda.

NETRIGHT organised a parallel event at the 54th session of the Commission on the Status of Women under the theme: ‘Fifteen Years of Implementing the Beijing Platform for Action in Ghana, Challenges and the Way Forward’. The event which was chaired by Dorcas Coker- Appiah a Steering Committee member of NETRIGHT was attended by over 50 women’s rights activists and Civil Society. The speakers for the occasion were Adolf Awuku Bekoe, the National Coordinator of Domestic Violence Coalition (DV Coalition), Hilary Gbedemah a lawyer and member of NETRIGHT and Hamida Harrison, the Convenor of the Women’s Manifesto Coalition. They spoke on the topics “Struggles to Secure Women’s Bodily Integrity: Ghana’s Domestic Violence Law”, “Women’s Rights and Economic Justice” and “Movement Building for Women’s Rights in Ghana: The Case of the Three Coalitions” respectively. This enhanced NETRIGHT’s image on the international arena as a credible women’s rights organisation.

Local Initiatives

NETRIGHT’s participation in local initiatives such as National Gender Forum, World University of Canada Sectors Meeting, Learn & Share Forum on Domestic Violence, Gender Debate, Launching of Oil & Gas Stakeholders Guide, and Consultations on the Domestic Workers Regulation and Coalition on the Women’s Manifesto for Ghana meeting offered NETRIGHT the opportunity for engendering policy framework, make input into gender issues as well as enlighten and strengthen our knowledge base on women’s rights issues for strategic engagement.

Research and Publications

Research and publications is another area of activity which builds the capacity of the network. NETRIGHT has taken delivery of Akoben Volume 9, Issue 2 on Women and Land. The next issue is on ‘Women in the Informal Economy’.

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 recognition by successive governments about the importance of concerns raised by RAOs is a testimony of RAOs credibility and legitimacy. The government of Ghana through the various ministries have consulted RAOs at one point or the other on critical national issues. Government recognises the women’s movement as a credible and legitimate movement which has made immense contributions to the development of the country. Due to this the Ministry of Women and Children’s Affairs (MOWAC) has on several occasions consulted NETRIGHT on various issues bothering on women’s rights. MOWAC has recently contacted NETRIGHT to review the women’s rights section of the Constitution for onward submission to the

Constitutional Review Commission. NETRIGHT's initiative to begin its own process on the constitution has put it in a good position to respond to MOWAC's call.

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

The policy-making environment in Ghana offers numerous opportunities for civil society engagement. However, it is plagued by subjective partisan influence which tends to affect how objective Civil Society policy engagement is received undermining civil society's ability to influence formulation and implementation for pro-poor social and economic development.

The commitment of the National Democratic Congress (NDC) government to the Women's Manifesto document and incorporation of the key demands into its policy making processes indicates prospects for gender equality and women's rights policy influencing. The lack of political will to implement these demands and commit adequate resources to MOWAC for the effective implementation of its programmes and activities and capacity building raises questions about the ability of Ghana's policy making processes to be gender sensitive.

7. Grant and report related issues

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

No issue in particular.

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

Detailed Financial Data