

ANNEX 2

SPF Narrative Progress Report

Report period Jan-June, 2009

Contract Ref. No. 03/SPF/35/NGND

Organisation NGND

Contact Tel. No. 071-24797

Report Date 27 July, 2009

Report Prepared by Mohammed Aziz

Report Approved by Ismail Lansah

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. Project Outputs on research and advocacy and/or services delivered

List the outputs as you have presented in the Workplan submitted to G-RAP.

Make sure that you:

- Indicate estimated levels of completion per output
- Indicate target groups that used / received the output delivered
- Attach copy of product output

Outputs	Estimated Level of completion	Target groups that received output
Conference of female parliamentary candidates	complete	Women parliamentary aspirants and representatives of women groups in northern Ghana
Roundtable conference of political parties	complete	Political parties, NCCE, EC and the Media
Interparty dialogue meetings	complete	Political parties, NCCE, EC and the Media
Media/adm support for female parliamentary candidates	95%	Female parliamentary candidates

Outline outputs during this period	What specific policy issues does this target	What advocacy outputs were informed by your research
Conference of female parliamentary candidates	Gender equality and good governance	
Roundtable conference of political parties	Good governance and the rule of law	
Interparty dialogue meetings	Good governance and the rule of law	
Media/adm support for female parliamentary candidates	Gender equality and good governance	

2. What is the organisations success in undertaking this special project

The NGND has deepened consultations and policy debate on the need to promote women's participation in leadership and political governance as a result of a trickle down effect of the special project that the Network implemented in support of women during the 2008 general elections. Currently, there is a spontaneous policy debate among civil society and state actors which is an aftermath effect of the project for state to finance women vying to go to parliament as an affirmative action just as the state is considering funding political parties. The NGND will facilitate this process and bring the issue into the public domain for a nation wide debate and consultations.

The project has also brought together women in northern Ghana who participated in both elections 2004 and 2008 into a form of coalition to map out strategies to be more effective in subsequent elections. Again, this idea emanated from the conference of female candidates in the 2008 elections which was an activity under this special project.

Importantly, one big success was the peaceful elections enjoyed in northern Ghana in the midst of heightened political and chieftaincy conflicts. Northern Ghana recorded violence free elections as a result of commitments obtained from leaders of both political and ethnic groups which were facilitated by the roundtable conference of political parties, the inter-party dialogue committee meetings and the local code of conducts developed for political parties which the Network organised under the project.

The election of 3 of the female parliamentary candidates supported in the 2008 general elections also points to a positive future that women can make it and would make it. One of the women supported to win had a deputy ministerial appointment in the current government.

3. Stakeholder Perception

How has the credibility and legitimacy of your 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 Northern Ghana Network for Development as a RAO has gained a lot of respect in the area of evidence-based research and advocacy especially with regard to it advocacy for poverty reduction and bridging the development gap in Ghana between southern and northern Ghana. Five aspiring Members of Parliament in the Tamale Constituency in the last general elections participated in a radio debate on what their parties' manifestoes say about bridging the development gap between northern and southern Ghana organized by the Network.

The Network was also mandated by CSOs in northern Ghana to lead them in realizing the implementation of the Northern Ghana Development Fund after it had hosted public sensitization meeting of various stakeholder groups on the Northern Development Fund.

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

The environment is gradually becoming more transparent and participatory involving majority of key stakeholders including civil society. This is due partly to the fact that the credibility of civil society in Ghana has gone high and partly due to donor-policy shift towards the multi-donor budget support system which makes it mandatory for civil society consultation in all policy debate and dialogue.

5. Grant and report related issues

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

Probably this reporting format helps Grap management obtain the information they want, but it will be helpful also if grantees are allowed some room to report in their own form (optionally) which may allow for more information to be put in.

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

none