



**INSTITUTE FOR POLICY ALTERNATIVES**

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**REPORT OF:**

**Training Program on Community Monitoring of Poverty  
(for Members of Parliament from Kenya, Nigeria & Uganda)**

**September 27 to October 01, 2004, Tamale, Ghana**

*As part of the Africa-Canada Parliamentary Strengthening Program of the  
Parliamentary Centre, Canada*

*Funded by:*

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## **1 Introduction and Background**

This report provides a summary of the process, main results and the lessons learned during the training session on Community Monitoring of Poverty for members of Parliament from Kenya, Uganda and Nigeria. The training which took place in Tamale, Ghana, from September 27<sup>th</sup> to October 02, was the second batch of Anglophone Africa training session, which forms part of the Africa-Canada Parliamentary Strengthening program of the Parliamentary Centre, Canada.

The report contains:

- A description of the content of the training
- Key outcomes and lessons learned
- Participants' evaluation
- Profile of the participants

## **2 Training Content**

The week-long training focused on enhancing the broad awareness of Members of Parliament on key issues pertaining to their oversight role for public policy, and building their capacity to use simple tools for engaging communities in the monitoring of poverty. The specific training objectives were as follows:

1. To increase awareness of MPs on context of public policies that shape poverty reduction efforts in Africa;
2. To improve the ability of MPs in engaging citizens to monitor pro-poor policies and programmes;
3. To relate the poverty monitoring function of MPs to their overall deliberative and oversight functions, by assisting them to communicate results of poverty monitoring to their Parliaments.

In accordance with these objectives, the training focused on five main modules:

- Module 1: Parliament & the Policy Framework for Pro-poor Development: MDGs and PRSPs
- Module 2: Concepts of Social & Public Accountability
- Module 3: Participatory tools for Citizen and Community Engagement in Monitoring Poverty:
  - 3a: The Citizen Report Card
  - 3b: The Community Score Card

- Module 4: Engaging Citizens in Assessing and Monitoring Poverty
- Module 5: Communicating Results, Feedback and Reporting

### **2.1 *Module 1: Parliament & the Policy Framework for Pro-poor Development: MDGs & PRSPs***

This training session improved on the content of the policy framework for pro-poor development, by moving beyond PRSPs to include overarching global and continental policy frameworks namely: the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) and the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD). As Parliaments grow in prominence, the obligations to which African governments have signed up for remain important policy commitments that Parliament needs to have oversight for. The first step in this social and public accountability cycle is therefore an understanding of the context of these global and national public policies in order to demand accountability for them. Using the evolution of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) and the Poverty Reduction Strategy and Programs (PRSP) as the major public policy initiatives globally, and in Africa.

This module covered:

- ❑ An understanding of the paradigm shifts in the concept and practice of development policy, including background and components of the MDGs as they frame global commitment to pro-poor development.
- ❑ An examination of how the MDGs shape and condition country-level policies and Poverty Reduction Strategies.
- ❑ A review of some exceptions and variations to PRSPs in selected countries (notably South Africa, which moved from the Reconstruction and Development Programme – RDP to a Growth and Economic Empowerment Programme – GEAR).
- ❑ A discussion of the role of Parliament in the new policy frameworks
- ❑ A synoptic case study of NEPAD and the African Peer Review Mechanism

### **2.2 *Module 2: Concepts of Social & Public Accountability***

The process of poverty monitoring is anchored in the basic principles of and concepts of Social & Public Accountability. In this framework, the oversight role of Parliament is seen as an obligation imposed on the institution by citizens. The module formed the rationale for the week-long course by addressing such issues as:

- The meaning of Accountability in the context of African realities. Attempts are made to develop a shared understanding of the concept of accountability, and how these relate to the societal meaning and public implications of the concept.
- How notions of accountability are applied in the conduct of public life.
- Who demands accountability and for what?
- What obligations do Parliaments have for accountability?

At the end of the module, participants were:

- ✓ Familiar with the global context and concepts of social and public accountability as they relate to Parliament.
- ✓ Able to relate these concepts to their country-specific realities.
- ✓ Developed a shared understanding of what specific institutions have mandate for social and public accountability and what type of demand for accountability exists in various countries.

### ***2.3 Module 3: Participatory tools for Citizen and Community Engagement in Monitoring Poverty***

#### **2.3.1 Module 3a: The Citizen Report Card**

A fundamental step in engaging citizens is to understand the process of participatory monitoring and evaluation, and to be able to use the right tools for this engagement. The Citizen Report Card is a tested methodology that is capable of being deployed quickly and, with minimum training, used effectively by Parliament to gather information about performance of public services through the perspectives of their constituents, citizens and community groups.

At the end of this module, participants:

- ✓ Understood what the Citizen Report Card is and how its developed
- ✓ Learned how to adapt these tools for their own use in communities and with relevant target groups.
- ✓ Were familiar with the type of information that can be gathered;
- ✓ Understood how this information is analyzed and reported; and,
- ✓ Became aware of the uses to which the information can be put.

### **2.3.2 Module 3b: The Community Score Card**

A fundamental step in engaging citizens is to understand the process of participatory monitoring and evaluation, and to be able to use the right tools for this engagement. The Community Score Card is a process of systematic engagement with rural communities that allows MPs to facilitate dialogue among poor people, for the purpose of assessing their conditions and engaging them to assess the performance of government programmes and expenditures that are designed to alleviate poverty. At the end of this module, participants were exposed to:

- ✓ Techniques for facilitating discussions with communities for the purpose of constructing a Community Score Card focusing on a particular issue of poverty;
- ✓ Approaches to assessing how the perspectives of the poor themselves can be used to propose policy reforms;
- ✓ Strategies for feeding-back community perspectives to the decision-makers.
- ✓ How to adapt these tools for their own use in communities and with relevant target groups.

### **2.4 Module 4: Engaging Citizens in Assessing and Monitoring Poverty**

Parliaments are about representing people and making their voices heard before, during and after public policy measures, such as how PRSPs have been formulated and implemented. This module is a field-based exercise designed to provide participants with hands-on experience in engaging citizens, especially the poor, in poverty assessment. The module involved:

- ✓ Preparing Members of Parliament on Community Animation techniques
- ✓ Providing skills on how MPs can facilitate the development of community-based criteria for assessing policies and performance of public institutions and services
- ✓ Enhancing the ability of MPs to generate dialogue and consensus between service providers and citizens who consume these services
- ✓ Developing approaches for communities to understand how to rate performance
- ✓ Improving the skills of MPs in recording the outcomes of these engagements.

## **2.5 Module 5: Communicating Results, Feedback and Reporting**

Parliamentary Committees have a unique function in translating public sentiments into advice for policy improvements. This module was designed to enhance the process of communicating results of performance assessments in the field into simple reports that would influence Parliamentary discussions and proceedings. The module included:

- ✓ How to summarize the results of their field visits by producing a simple report.
- ✓ How to use the concept of communication as a tool of public policy review and influence.
- ✓ An understanding of the various modes of communicating evaluation findings and the pros and cons associated with each.
- ✓ Ability to design appropriate communication strategies for poverty assessment results;
- ✓ Improved capacity to arrange a feedback session involving both the providers and the consumers of services.

## **3 Results and Lessons Learned**

### **3.1 Results**

The key results of the training were as follows:

### **3.2 Lessons Learned**

Three lessons were learned during this, the second training for MPs. These were:

1. The broadening of the policy context beyond PRSP allowed MPs to reflect on the MDGs and the main policy instrument in present-day African development, NEPAD. However, there was not enough time to explore these policy instruments in detail. For this reason, the links between MDGs, NEPAD, and PRSPs could not be explored. All participants complained that this level of analysis was very useful for understanding policies and programmes, yet there was little time to deepen these reflections and analyses.
2. The participation of 3-4 MPs continues to be a real challenge. Participants wondered how this small number might be able to influence the rest of the committee to “buy-into” the technique. Some suggested that the training could be arranged as a “training of trainers” to allow the participants to pass the skills and issues on to their colleagues.
3. Focusing primarily on MPs (no staff) allowed the training to trade experiences among the participants. Future training will need to advise the MPs to bring

along real examples from their home countries to reflect the real situations and to allow participants to contribute more.

4. The absence of MPs from Ghana prevented experience-sharing with Ghana, the location of the training. In future training sessions, a Ghanaian resource-MP or former MP will need to be included to ensure that Ghana experiences are shared.

#### **4 Participant Evaluation**

Participants were given the opportunity to evaluate the training session, and to reflect the knowledge gained as a result of the training and the field practice. The evaluation itself was designed using a score card approach, similar to the one the participants had helped communities to construct in the field.

The evaluation showed that while most participants already had a fair understanding of the policy context in which their Parliaments operate (MDGs, NEPAD and PRSP), all of them reported gaining additional knowledge from the training. The same trend was recorded for the rest of the sessions, with the highest knowledge gain recorded in the modules relating to techniques and tools for civic engagement in poverty monitoring.

Theme and Session	Rating																
	Knowledge Before					Knowledge After					Performance Rating of Presenter						
	0	1	2	3	4	0	1	2	3	4	0	1	2	3	4		
<b>Module 1:</b> Parliament & the Policy Framework for pro-Poor Development – MDGs NEPAD, PRSPs	1	1	4	-	-	-	-	-	7	-	-	-	-	3	5		
<b>Module 2:</b> Basic Concepts in Social Accountability	-	-	3	2	1	-	-	-	7	-	-	-	-	4	4		
<b>Module 3a:</b> Engaging Citizens in Monitoring Poverty – The Citizens Report Card	-	3	3	1	-	-	-	-	4	2	-	-	-		3		
<b>Module 3b:</b> Engaging Citizens in Monitoring Poverty – The Community Score Card	-	3	4	-	-	-	-	3	1	3	-	-	-	4	4		
<b>Module 4:</b> Collecting data and engaging with communities through Filed-work in the village/urban location	-	1	5	1	-	-	-	-	6	1	-	-	-	4	4		
<b>Module 5:</b> Support to analyze data and produce report offered by Resource persons and session on Communicating results – Reporting & Feedback	-	-	5	1	-	-	-	1	4	1	-	-	-	3	5		
<b>Module 6:</b> Information on developing pilot projects	-	3	3	1	-	-	-	-	6	1	-	-	-	4	4		
<b>Session on Interface with the Savelugu District Assembly</b>		-		-	3	-	-	-	-	-	3	1	-	-	-	4	1

<i>Please rate the following Services</i>	<i>Poor</i>	<i>Average</i>	<i>Very Satisfied</i>	<i>Comments</i>
Communications before arrival for training in Ghana		5	3	
Travel Arrangements made for your trip		2	6	
Arrival reception, hotel and orientation during transit through Accra		1	7	
Organization and arrangements for the training		2	6	
Financial Arrangements		4	4	
Training Materials		1	7	
Performance of Primary Resource Persons <b>(Dr. Sulley Gariba)</b>		-	8	Dr. Gariba knows and loves the subject
Performance of other Resource Persons		4	3	Dr. Gariba needs to groom somebody otherwise if he is unable then.....
Performance of Administrative Staff of IPA before, during and after training		6	2	
Accommodation facilities and services		2	6	Excellent and please keep it up!
Please rate your own Role in the Training – participation, group work, discussions and contributions		4	3	

#### ***4.1 Positive experiences in the training***

- ✓ The process and methodology of the interview process
- ✓ Interactions and knowledge gained out of multi-cultural engages.
- ✓ Flexibility in the process of teaching, I gained more insight in major issues at global continental natural and local.
- ✓ Good exposure to new methods of oversight role of parliaments
- ✓ The application of the Macro and Micro economics which I acquired during my Master/Academic study
- ✓ Unity with fellow Parliamentarians from other countries focusing on development of our countries
- ✓ Frankness (openness) and patience by presenters
- ✓ Essential monitoring without biased or vindication, experience from interactions with MPs from other countries and belief and hope in Africanism and government, benefits outweighs costs.
- ✓ Ability to perform research and have a feedback with regards to policies and have responses in order to achieve desired results.

#### ***4.2 Negative aspects experienced in the training***

- ✓ Competition amongst local politicians
- ✓ Time for the programme too short and some misinformation by service providers could not be verified
- ✓ Gaps between knowledge and information at the District level and the recipients of the services. Beneficiaries are not sufficiently involved in identification, implementation and evaluation of projects.
- ✓ The time was short thus we could not go deep into the studies

#### ***4.3 Suggestions for strengthening training program for MPs on Community Monitoring of Poverty***

- ✓ Regular training and support for the work of our Committees
- ✓ More funding from Partner players to cover a larger group of MPs
- ✓ Time should be extended particularly in the field work, to enable both the staff and community members to adjust to one another before they engage each other
- ✓ The programme is well conceived and used a more practical experience on field by the participants
- ✓ Deploy more funds for a more extensive programme to yield higher benefits.
- ✓ Should be arranged quarterly in a year.

#### ***4.4 Were your expectations met?***

- [ 6 ] Yes fully
- [ 2 ] Yes, Partially
- [ ] No.

## 5 Participant Profile

An innovation was introduced during this training that enabled the compilation of profiles of the participants. As part of the arrival orientation, each participant completed a participant profile questionnaire, on arrival and prior to the commencement of the training. This information allowed the training resource group to further understand both the background and the expectations that the participants formed, and therefore enhanced the planning and delivery of sessions. The following is a summary of these profiles.

### 5.1 *Hon. Francis J. Mukama, Uganda*

Committee: Member of Public Accounts Committee  
Tel #: 077564521  
Address: Parliament of Uganda, Box 7178, Kampala

The Committee and its mandate Membership:

1. Review governments' spending using Auditor General's Report and recommend to Parliament for remedial actions
2. Oversight including value for money

Major poverty issues which you or your committee is engaged in, or wished to explore:

1. Water provision to rural areas
2. General Social Service Provision – Health, Education
3. Wish to explore empowering and improvement of Household incomes especially through modernization of agriculture.

What plans do your or are u making to initiate work in poverty monitoring and in engaging citizens in your country?

- Employ techniques acquired from IPA (Ghana) to involve my constituency of 131,000 people to review and plan for services and programmes that would gear to improvement of their livelihood.

## **5.2 Hon William Nsubuga, Uganda**

Committee: Public Accounts & Finance Committee  
Position: Vice- Chairperson, Finance  
Tel #: 00256-77-503626  
Email: [WNsubuga@Parliament.go.ug](mailto:WNsubuga@Parliament.go.ug)

Description of Committee and its mandate and membership:

The Public Accounts Committee is mandated to scrutinize all public expenditure to actually confirm that Public Money was spent on what it was intended. Whereas the Finance Committee examine the budget proposal for the Ministry of Finance and all bills submitted by the Ministry.

Major poverty issues which the Public Accounts Committee is engaged in, or wishes to explore are:

1. To what extend has the urban street children increased the poverty levels in Uganda
2. Micro finance initiatives to Women Group in order to eradicate poverty.

What plans do you have or are you making to initiate work in poverty monitoring and in engaging citizens in your country?

1. The Communities need to be sensitized to always make a follow-up on all project implemented in their areas.
2. I will liaise with the District Authority to make public all projects carried out in their areas and have joint meetings between District Authority, Service providers/NGOs and the beneficiary Communities and follow up interfaces.

## **5.3 Hon. Jack Sabiti, Uganda**

Committee/Position: Vice Chairman Public Accounts Committee  
Tel #: 077-324528  
Address: P.O. Box 7178, Kampala  
Email: [jsabiti@parliament.go.ug](mailto:jsabiti@parliament.go.ug)

Description of your committee and its mandate and membership:

In its oversight role, the committee of Public Accounts overseas Public Expenditure and monitors how well fund supported by parliament have been used. The Committee Monitors all Public Expenditure.

Major poverty issues which you or your committee is engaged in , or wishes to explore:

1. Corruption
2. Good Governance
3. Transparency and Accountability

What plans do you have or are making to initiate work in poverty monitoring and engaging citizens in your country?

To mobilize the Committee of Public Accounts, Finance and Planning, and Local Government to fully get involved fighting corruption.

#### **5.4 Hon. Dr. Oburu Oginga, Kenya**

Committee/Position: Vice Chairman – Finance, Trade, Planning and Tourism

Tel #: 00254 733818517

Address: P.O. Box 78050, Nairobi – Kenya

Email: [info@nmico.com](mailto:info@nmico.com)

Description of your committee and its mandate and membership:

Scrutiny of bills, sessorial papers and oversight on issues of Finance, Trade (commerce) Planning and Tourism

Major poverty issues which you or your committee is engaged in, or wishes to explore:

1. H.I.V –AIDS victims in areas with highest poverty index
2. Food self sufficiency in food deficit access with high poverty index
3. Fishermen around Lake Victoria – uplifting them from abject poverty

What plans do you have or are you making to initiate poverty monitoring and in engaging citizens in your country:

To engage parliamentary committee in the initiative by establishing a sub-committee on poverty monitoring and engagement of citizens.

### **5.5 Hon. Dimeji Bankole, Nigeria**

Committee/Position            Finance – Deputy Chairman  
Tel #:                            234 8033043160  
Address:                        House of Reps, National Assembly, Abuja, FCT  
Email:                            [dimejibankole2000@yahoo.com](mailto:dimejibankole2000@yahoo.com)

Description of your committee and its mandate and membership:

Finance Committee regulates and oversight on all Revenue Generation and Revenue Generating Agencies with Particular reference to Customs and Exercise, Insurance, Revenue Management and Fiscal policy. We have over 30 members/

Major poverty issues which you or your committee is engaged I, or wishes to explore:

1.     Health
2.     Water
3.     Education

What plans do you have or are you making to initiate work in poverty monitoring and in engaging citizens in your country?

Especially in universal basic education programmes of the Federal Government over the last 2 years, monitoring its effect and direct results on poverty alleviation and eradication.

### **5.6 Hon. Balarabe Wakili, Nigeria**

Committee/Position: Finance –Member  
Tel #:                            08033115513  
Address:                        National Assembly Complex Abuja Office

Description of your committee and its mandate and membership

Finance Committee oversight function on finance/revenue profile

Major poverty issues which you or your committee is engaged in, or wishes to explore:

1.     Health Care Program (Primary)
2.     Adult Education
3.     Vocational Training

What plans do you have or are you making to initiate work in poverty monitoring and in engaging citizens in your country?

First, in the identification of the beneficiaries and designing a program to educate and implement at the grassroot level.

### **5.7 Mr. Daniel Mwaniki Mutunga, Kenya**

Committee/Position: Secretary  
Tel #: 254 202848445/254 20722808825  
Fax #: 254 20221885  
Address: P.O. Box 41842 00100 Nairobi – Kenya  
Email: [D\\_mutunga@yahoo.com](mailto:D_mutunga@yahoo.com)

Description of your committee and its mandate and membership:

Committee established under an Act of Parliament and mandated to look into issues of Finance, planning, trade and tourism. It has 11 members.

Major poverty issues which you or your committee is engaged in, or wishes to explore:

1. Food Security and Nutrition
2. Economic empowerment to the rural and urban poor through Investment Promotion Bill, 2004

What plans do you have or are you making to initiate work in poverty monitoring and in engaging citizens in your country?

Introduce Poverty Reduction Strategy Programmes into the Constituency

### **5.8 Hon. Dr. Adhu Awiti, Kenya**

Address: P.O. Box 41842, Nairobi

Description of your committee and its mandate and membership:

The Financial Management and Economy and Trade. The oversight of Ministry of Finance Policy on Monetary and Fiscal Management. Bills on privatization, Investments, procurements WTO rules etc.

Major poverty issues which you or your committee is engaged in, or wishes to explore:

1. Free Primary Education
2. Water supply
3. Famine, Food Security and orphans.

What plans do you have or are you making to initiate work in poverty monitoring and in engaging citizens in your country?

To initiate project – of Youth, Poly techniques where the orphans and poor students will be trained to acquire skills for their livelihood.

## 6 Detailed Training Program

**INSTITUTE FOR POLICY ALTERNATIVES**  
*Tamale, Ghana*

**Training Programme on Parliament & Civic Engagement in  
 Community Monitoring of Poverty Reduction**

September 27 to October 01, 2004

Module	Contents	Approach
<b>Day 1: Monday September 27</b>		
9:00 am – 10:00	<b>Introduction and Participant Orientation to the Course</b>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Participant Profile and Expectations;</li> <li>✓ Rationale, objectives and content of the training: explains why the course has been developed;</li> <li>✓ Who the course is targeted at.</li> </ul>	A Participatory session in which participants review the agenda
10:00 – 10:30	<b>Coffee/Tea Break</b>	
10:30 – 12:30	<b>Module 1: Parliament &amp; the Policy Framework for Pro-poor Development: MDGs and PRSPs</b>	
	<p>First step in the social and public accountability cycle is understanding the context of public policy, using the global commitment to MDGs, and their translation to PRSP as one of the major public policy initiatives in Africa. Added to this is the NEPAD Initiative, which provides a continental flavour to growth, development and poverty reduction efforts. At the end of the module, participants will be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Outline what specific aspects of global development policy can Parliaments hold Government Accountable for;</li> <li>✓ Summarize what processes Parliament can use to ensure that global policies – MDG, NEPAD -- are translated into national priorities with budgets,</li> <li>✓ Identify what citizens expect to hold Parliament Accountable for</li> </ul>	Presentations and group exercises
12:30 – 2:00	<b>Lunch</b>	
2:00 – 5:00	<b>Module 2: Concepts of Social and Public Accountability</b>	
	In introducing basic concepts of Social & Public Accountability.	A start-up

	<p>At the end of the module, participants will be:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Familiar with the global context and concepts of social and public accountability as they relate to Parliament.</li> <li>✓ Be able to relate these concepts to their country-specific realities.</li> <li>✓ Develop a shared understanding of what specific institutions have mandate for social and public accountability and what type of demand for accountability exists in various countries.</li> </ul>	<p>lecture, using slides and reference materials</p> <p>Participant exercises are built into the material, requiring small group work</p>
<b>Day 2: Tuesday September 28</b>		
<b>9:00 – 10:30</b>	<b>Module 3: Participatory tools for Citizen and Community Monitoring &amp; Evaluation of Poverty</b>	
	<b>3a: Citizen Report Card</b>	
	<p>The process of engaging citizens in assessing their own conditions takes different forms. One of the tools for citizen engagement is the Citizen Report Card. In this session, participants will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Develop an understanding of the citizen report card and its methods</li> <li>✓ Acquire basic skills in how to design a survey based on the use of the citizen report card</li> <li>✓ Explore examples of where this method has been used</li> </ul>	
<b>10:30 – 11:00</b>	<b>Coffee/Tea Break</b>	
<b>11:00 – 1:00</b>	<b>Module 3 continued: Participatory tools for Citizen and Community Monitoring &amp; Evaluation of Poverty</b>	
	<b>3b: Community Score Card</b>	
	<p>A fundamental step in engaging citizens is to understand the process of participatory monitoring and evaluation, and to be able to use the right tools for this engagement. At the end of this module, participants will be:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Able to use participatory assessment tools, such as the Community Score Card to engage citizens in performance assessment.</li> <li>✓ Adapt these tools for their own use in communities and with relevant target groups.</li> </ul>	<p>Group exercises will be used to develop indicators for assessing results of evaluation provided by Government</p> <p>Hands-on practice will be used to introduce participatory</p>

		tools for citizen engagement
<b>1:00 – 2:30</b>	<b>Lunch</b>	
<b>2:30 – 5:00</b>	<b>Preparing for Field Work</b>	
	<p>Group 1: Citizen Report Card: Participants engage with the Tamale Metropolitan Assembly in reviewing the policy and programme objectives of the Pro-poor Street Childrens' Initiative; they then develop key indicators and prepare questionnaire</p>	<p>Group 2: Community Score Card: Participants engage with community facilitators and District Assembly staff to review the background to the community water and sanitation programme, and prepare for community engagement</p>
<b>Day 3: Wednesday September 29<sup>th</sup></b>		
8:00 am – 5:00 pm	<b>Module 4: Engaging Citizens in Assessing and Monitoring Poverty – Field Work</b>	
	<p>Parliaments are about representing people and making their voices heard before, during and after public policy measures, such as PRSPs have been formulated and implemented. This module is a field-based exercise that seeks to provide participants with hands-on experience in engaging citizens, especially the poor, in poverty assessment. At the end of the module, participants will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Develop community-based criteria for assessing policies and performance of public institutions and services</li> <li>✓ Enhance their ability to generate dialogue and consensus between service providers and citizens who consume these services</li> <li>✓ Understand how to rate performance</li> <li>✓ Improve skills in recording the outcomes of these engagements.</li> </ul>	<p>Field visit to two sites:</p> <p>(1) How local government and beneficiary groups assess a project providing assistance to vulnerable street children returned to their community to acquire new skills, using Citizen Report Card.</p> <p>(2) How rural dwellers assess the performance of a water supply scheme designed to serve the poorest of the poor, using the Community Score Card</p>
<b>Day 4: Thursday September 30<sup>th</sup></b>		

8:30 – 10:00	<b>Module 5: Communicating Results – Reporting &amp; Feedback with Communities</b>	
	<p>Parliamentary Committees have a unique function in translating public sentiments into advise for policy improvements. This module seeks to enhance the process of communicating results of performance assessments. At the end of the module, participants will be:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Able to summarize the results of their field visits by producing a simple report.</li> <li>✓ Understand the various modes of communicating evaluation findings and the pros and cons associated with each.</li> <li>✓ Be able to design appropriate communication strategies for poverty assessment results;</li> <li>✓ Be able to arrange a feedback session involving both the providers and the consumers of services.</li> </ul>	<p>In the morning, participants will be supported to summarize and synthesize the results of their field work</p>
10:00 – 10:30	<b>Coffee/Tea Break</b>	
11:00 – 1:00	<b>Community Interface Session</b>	
	<p>Experience an interface session: Upon completing field engagement with citizens and representatives of the poor, Members of Parliament will need to facilitate an interface between policy makers, service providers and the representatives of the poor, who assessed these policies and services. The objective is to report back findings and establish a reform agenda. At the end of this session, which will be conducted in the field, MPs will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Understand how information on poverty assessment is fed back to the citizens and decision-makers</li> <li>✓ Be able to conduct sessions to moderate the views of the different constituencies</li> <li>✓ Have enhanced skills on how to develop a reform agenda based on poverty assessment</li> </ul>	<p>Later (in mid-morning) participants will attend a “real” interface session with communities and local government officials</p>
1:00 – 2:30	<b>Lunch</b>	
2:30 – 5:00	<b>Module 6: Developing a Pilot Projects: Country Groups break into their various committees for this exercise</b>	
	<p>The ultimate goal of the course is to build competency of MPs and their staff in initiating, coordinating and managing processes of social and public accountability for poverty reduction. In this last module, participants will be:</p>	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Familiar with the concept of evaluation and its role in carrying out the mandate of Parliamentary oversight for poverty reduction.</li> <li>✓ Understand the steps involved in conducting an evaluation.</li> <li>✓ Able to formulate a concept note for a pilot activity on evaluating poverty reduction from Parliament, based on the basic tools acquired from the course.</li> </ul>	
<b>Day 5: Friday October 01 -- Wrap-up, Evaluation &amp; Graduation</b>		
<b>8:00 – 10:00</b>	<p>Participants will develop:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Understand the steps involved in conducting an evaluation.</li> <li>✓ Criteria for selecting candidates for Parliamentary Internship Course</li> <li>✓ Communication strategies for finalizing and seeking approval for pilot projects</li> </ul> <p>Work plan for engaging in other suggested activities of the Network</p>	
<b>11:00 – 1:00</b>	<b>DEPARTURE FOR ACCRA BY AIR</b>	
<b>1:00 – 2:30</b>	<b>Lunch</b>	
<b>2:30 – 5:00</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>Session with leadership of Ghana Parliament</b></li> <li>✓ <b>De-briefing at Parliamentary Center – African Poverty Reduction Network offices in Accra</b></li> </ul>	