Cooperative Agreement in support of
the “Smart Development Initiative”

MONTHLY REPORT – December 2006

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The following are the activities conducted in the month of December. They fall under Task 1 (Continuation of Work in Ghana) and Task 2 (Replicate the Ghana model elsewhere in West Africa).

- CEE continued to work on the joint CEE/RCEER one-week regional workshop on natural gas. Currently scheduled for the first week of February, the workshop will be held in Abuja, Nigeria. NNPC is providing support for organization. This five-day program will provide a comprehensive overview of natural gas (economics of value chain, infrastructure, standards, and smart development issues). In addition to CEE staff, other outside experts and experts from WAGP countries will present on various issues. Delegates from Nigeria, Ghana, Togo and Benin will attend. Other participants may come from Angola and Côte d’Ivoire. (Tasks 1 and 2)

- RCEER and its supporters continue to work on organizing the next public outreach activity on natural gas. It was decided that a December workshop ran the risk of conflicting with Christmas holidays. Also, it was deemed desirable to have the RCEER workshop closer to the Abuja workshop and another workshop that will be organized by EC around the same time. (Task 1)

- CEE provided background information on its partnership activities in Ghana since early 2004 to AED for independent evaluation of the partnership model.

- CEE started the selection of delegates for its annual capacity-building program “New Era in Oil, Gas & Power Value Creation.” Already, there are several interested parties from Ghana and Nigeria.

Next steps

- RCEER will hold a public outreach activity on natural gas.

- RCEER and CEE will work together to organize a one-week workshop in Abuja in February 2007 with the help of NNPC and possibly other interested parties in the region.