

Update on Informal / Street food project (*Maximising impact of food safety knowledge of street vended and informally vended foods generated by CPHP projects in West and Southern Africa using the coalition approach and extending the approach to India*).

The project inception meeting and stakeholder meetings were held in Ghana during the week of 7th March 05.

Project Inception meeting

The inception meeting was held on Tuesday 8th at FRI. At this meeting Dr Paa-Nii Johnson, FRI gave an overview of the Project Final Report for the last DFID/CPHP project in Ghana. Keith Tomlins, NRI gave an introduction to the current project and this was followed by the discussion about the new project outputs and activities. The modules that the Ghana partnership would develop was discussed and the lead and supporting institutions responsible for developing each module agreed. The partnership discussed the stakeholder meeting to be held on Thursday 10th March. In addition, the partnership discussed the filming of the project in Ghana by a UK company, TVE who produce a series called 'Earth Report' for BBC World. For more information visit www.tve.org/earthreport/schedule/index.html. We have been informed that the audience for BBC World is 350 million. A picture of the Ghana partners attending the coalition meeting is shown below:



Stakeholder meeting

The stakeholder meeting was held at the Ange Hall Hotel, Accra and was attended by over 50 people. The meeting started with an invited presentation on street foods in Ghana by Mr K. van Ess, Principal Enforcement Officer, Head of Food Section, Food & Drugs Board who gave an excellent overview. This included:

- the importance of street foods in Ghana
- the assistance that the DFID funded Crops Post Harvest Programme is contributing to Ghana
- how the project has helped to raise awareness of food safety concerns through annual food safety weeks in Ghana, development of TV documentaries, promotion through posters and billboards

- strengthening links with other institutions and agencies
- recommending improved collaboration, giving the appropriate institutions and agencies a mandate, intensifying consumer education, developing new concepts regarding food regulation and that enforcement must be through collaboration rather than police action.
- Recommending increased surveillance programmes to determine and establish levels of compliance.

At this meeting Dr Paa-Nii Johnson, FRI gave an overview of the Project Final Report for the last DFID/CPHP project in Ghana. Keith Tomlins, NRI gave an introduction to the current project and this was followed by the discussion about the new project outputs and activities. The stakeholders were then divided into three working groups to discuss and start the development of modules developed by the Ghana partnership.

Dr Johnson giving the project overview



Stakeholders attending the meeting



Working group discussing modules



Filming of the project by TVE for BBC World

A UK company, TVE are responsible for producing a BBC World TV series called 'Earth Report'. For more information visit www.tve.org/earthreport/schedule/index.html. The length of the programme on street foods in Ghana will be 5 minutes but they took several hours worth which they will edit and narrate. The storyline will be from the street vendors view point and about how the project sought to support them by improving food safety. It is anticipated that the finished version will not be ready until July 2005. We are not sure when the film will be shown on BBC World but will keep everyone informed.

Filming a vendor at a market in Accra



Interviewing a street food vendor



Interviewing a consumer



Vendors dancing during a food safety training programme organised by a street food vendor NGO



Film crew filming the microbiology laboratory



Film crew filming the microbiology laboratory

