



FINDINGS OF STREET VENDORS STUDY IN KUMASI AND POLICY IMPLICATIONS

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OVERVIEW

- Objectives of study
- Research approach and methodology
- Key findings
- Some policy implications



OVERALL OBJECTIVE OF STUDY

- The overarching objective of the study was to promote a more favourable policy environment and more appropriate programmatic interventions for women street vendors.



SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES

- To gain a co-ordinated understanding of de facto policy in relation to street vendors in Ghana and of the conditions and contributions of these people in Ghana,
- To examine the capacity of organisations of women vendors, street vendors and hawkers to advocate for changes and support on their own behalf, and ways to enhance this capacity.



APPROACH TO RESEARCH

- It was an action research carried out specifically at the Race Course of Kumasi.
- Street vendors were scattered and seemingly unorganised and thus a reconnaissance survey was carried out to determine the various categories of street vendors that there were and the membership of each category for the purpose sampling.



METHODOLOGY

- Stratification and purposive sampling was used to select the sample for the questionnaire interview.
- Other methods employed for data gathering included key informant interviews and focus group discussions.
- A total of 120 questionnaires were administered.



KEY FINDINGS

- The local government resettled street vendors on **a private unprotected property** known as the The Kumasi Race Course (KRC) to keep them **away from public sight and for the purpose of maintaining city aesthetics.**
- Squatting at a **temporary private space** inhibited the vendors from developing permanent structures at the site.



FINDINGS ...CONT'

- The local government was unwilling to **allocate permanent space** in the CBD for street vendors.
- **Insecurity of vendors** at the site (they complained about their wares being stolen at night being an open unprotected space).
- Other squatters (people on drugs) had turned the KRC into a **sleeping place at night**, also making the place unsafe for vendors.



FINDINGS ...CONT'

- **Absence of basic infrastructure** at the site, e.g. water, storage toilet facilities, light, etc.
- **Unhygienic environment** (e.g. poor drainage system, absence of dustbins)
- **Vendors ignorant about the local government bye laws** regarding street vending/trade.



FINDINGS ...CONT'

- Many of the vendors at the Race Course **were not members of existing organisations** of vendors.
- Always under the **threat of being evicted** from the race course, which had implications for their livelihoods and expansion of their business.
- **Outdated and outmoded local govt' bye laws** for street vendors.



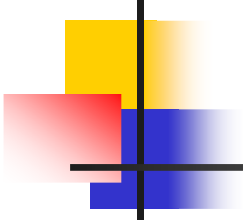
POLICY IMPLICATIONS

- Improved access of street vendors to information at both local and national levels.
- There is a need to review urban policy and local bye laws that have implication for street vending throughout the country.
- Strengthen the executives of street vendors organisations through capacity building, e.g. in advocacy and lobbying, etc.



POLICY IMPLICATIONS ... CONT'

- Strengthen alliance between street vendors associations (outside Accra) and the National Trade Union congress.
- Improve and strengthen relationship between street vendors and local governments.



THANK YOU!

