

ANNUAL REPORT OF ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH AND SANITATION UNIT-2022

1.0 INTRODUCTION

The Environmental Health and Sanitation Unit of the Sekyere South District Assembly in the quest to improve sanitation carried out the under mentioned activities in the period under review.

2.0 VISION

Provide Sustainable Environmental Sanitation for all.

3.0 MISSION

To improve the health of the public through the provision of sound, acceptable and cost effective Environmental Health and Sanitation services.

4.0 FUNCTIONS

- Facilitate the collection and disposal of waste including solid, liquid, industrial, health care as well as other waste that is generated through human activities.
- Facilitate cleansing and cleaning of thorough fares, markets, and other public places.
- Promote food hygiene.
- Promote environmental sanitation education.
- Sanitary disposal of the dead.
- Control the rearing and straying of animals.
- Monitoring the observance of environmental standards.

5.0 STAFFING

The staffing situation as at 30th December 2022 is indicated in the table below

5.1 Number and Grade of Technical Staff

TOWN/AREA COUNCIL	AEHAN	CEHO	SEHO	EHOII	CEHA	ACEHA	PEHA	SEHA	EHA	TOTAL
Wiamoase	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	2
Agona/Akrof.	-	1	1	1	1	-	-	1	-	5
Jamasi	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	2
Kona	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	2
Asamang	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1
Tano-Odumase	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Bepoase	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Bipoa	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Boanim	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	2	1	1	1	2	-	1	3	2	13

5.2. Number of Labourers

TOWN/AREA COUNCIL	REFUSE LABOURER		GRASSCUTTER		SWEEPER		TOTAL	
	Perm	Casual	Perm	Casual	Perm	Casual	Perm	Casual
Wiamoase	-	2	-	-	3	-	3	2
Agona/Akrofonso	-	2	1	4	-	5	1	11
Jamasi	-	-	-	-	3	-	3	-
Kona	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Asamang	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
Tano-Odumasi	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Bepoase	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	2
Bipoa	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Boanim	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	-	4	1	4	6	9	7	16

6.0 ZOOM LION GHANA LIMITED

6.1 Staffing

6.2 Number of Sanitation Guards

TOWN/AREA COUNCIL	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL
Wiamoase	-	-	-
Agona/Akrofonso	1	-	1
Jamasi	-	3	3
Kona	-	-	-
Asamang	-	-	-
Tano-Odumasi	1	-	1
Bepoase	-	-	-
Bipoa	2	-	2
Boanim	-	-	-
TOTALS	4	3	7

6.3 District Manager ----1

6.4 Number of Tricycle Riders

TOWN/AREA COUNCIL	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL
Wiamoase	2	10	12
Agona/Akrofonso	2	26	28
Jamasi	2	25	27
Kona	2	3	5
Asamang	1	7	8
Tano-Odumasi	1	4	5
Bepoase	1	10	11
Bipoa	-	6	6
Boanim	1	4	5
Total	12	95	107

6.5 Number of Namcop Workers

TOWN/AREA COUNCIL	MALE
Agona	1
Afamanaso	1
Asamang	5
Akrofonso	3
Bedomase	1
Bepoa	1
Jamasi	2
Kona	1
Odumase	1
Total	16

7.0 ACTIVITIES

7.1 Fumigation/spraying

The above exercise was carried out by the NAMCOP team of Zoomlion Ghana Ltd working with the District Assembly and was effectively supervised by the Unit. The areas fumigated are given in the table below;

DESCRIPTION	NUMBER	NAME OF POINT VISITED
Institutional Toilets	35	All Bepoase Electoral Areas All Wiamoase Electoral Areas Amenase, Boanim, Dawu, Tabre
Communal container sites	3	Wiamoase
Refuse Dump Sites	22	All Bepoase Electoral Areas All Wiamoase Electoral Areas Amenase, Boanim, Dawu, Tabre
Final Disposal Sites(Solid)	-	-
Market Centres	-	-
Slaughter house	1	Wiamoase
Institutional Urinals	13	All Bepoase Electoral Areas All Wiamoase Electoral Areas Amenase, Boanim
Major Drains	7	Bepoase, Wiamoase
Residencies of District Assembly Officials	-	-
Other Residences	1	Bepoase Sacred Heart Health Centre

8.0 SANITARY FACILITIES

8.1 Refuse Dumps and Communal Containers

TOWN/AREA COUNCIL	NO.OF APPROVED DUMPS	NO. OF COMMUNAL CONTAINERS
Wiamoase	1	3
Agona/Akrofonso	1	5
Jamasi	3	3
Kona	4	1
Asamang	5	1
Tano-Odumasi	5	-
Bepoase	4	-
Bipoa	7	-
Boanim	4	-
Total	35	13

8.2 Household Toilet Facilities

TOWN/AREA COUNCIL	TYPE OF TOILET FACILITY				
	TOTAL	Water Closet (WC)	Ventilated Improved Pit Latrine (VIP)	Kumasi Ventilated Improved Pit Latrine (KVIP)	Pit Latrine (PL)
Wiamoase	1,397	470	896	3	28
Agona/Akrofonso	1,361	670	659	2	30
Jamasi	998	288	694	-	16
Kona	791	204	569	-	18
Asamang	753	124	615	-	14
Tano-Odumasi	853	148	689	-	16
Bepoase	662	110	530	-	22
Bipoa	802	128	654	-	20
Boanim	722	111	598	-	13
Total	8,339	2253	5,904	5	177

Source: Field Survey (EHU)

Vigorous education is on-going to increase the existing figures of the household toilet facilities in order to reduce/eliminate open defecation in the district.

8.3 Number and Types of Public Toilets in the District

TOWN/AREA COUNCIL	WC	STL/AQUA PRIVY	KVIP/VIP	PIT	NO. PRIVATISED
Wiamoase	2(pr.)	-	6	-	2
Agona/Akrofonso	1(pr.)	3	3	-	3
Jamasi	1	2	3	-	1
Kona	1(CI)	-	3	1	-
Asamang	2	3	3	-	4
Tano-Odumasi	-	1	4	2	-
Bepoase	-	-	4		-
Bipoa	1	1	5	2	-
Boanim	1(pr.)	-	4	-	-
Total	9	10	35	5	10

NOTE: pr. =Constructed by private individuals.
CI. =Community Initiated Project led by the Chief

9.0 KEY ACTIVITIES

9.1.0 WASTE MANAGEMENT

9.1.0 Refuse Collection and Disposal

9.1.1 Solid Waste

The Unit effectively monitored and ensured regular lifting of full up communal refuse containers within the district by Zoom lion Ghana Limited to the final disposal site. A total of **Thirteen (13)** communal refuse containers are in use in the district to facilitate the collection, storage and disposal of refuse generated in the district.

It must be noted in no uncertain term that, the number of communal refuse containers in the district are woefully inadequate; hence the Assembly must take steps to acquire additional containers to forestall the incidence of open/crude dumping in the communities especially the new settlements.

9.1.2.0 Liquid Waste

9.1.2 Privatization of Public Toilets

The Assembly led by the Unit initiated the process of privatizing public toilets in the district. Public notices were pasted on these public toilets inviting the general public who are interested in managing these facilities to apply to the Assembly for consideration. Total of (4) public toilets were privatized. The areas are *Ankase Electoral Area, Wiamoase, Asikafoamatem Electoral Area Agona, Aburaso Electoral Area Asamang and Ahenebronum Electoral Area Asamang*

9.2.0 PREMISES INSPECTIONS

9.2.1 Domiciliary Inspections

TOWN/AREA COUNCIL	TOTAL NO OF HOUSES	TARGET	NUMBER OF HOUSES INSPECTED	% OF HOUSES INSPECTED
Wiamoase	1,701	1200	993	82.75
Agona/Akrofonso	1,581	1121	887	79.13
Jamasi	1,655	1201	947	78.85
Kona	855	900	615	68.33
Asamang	761	776	698	89.94
Tano-Odumasi	950	849	795	93.63
Bepoase	738	888	697	78.49
Bipoa	1,360	989	689	69.67
Boanim	1,090	850	479	56.35
Total	10,691	8,774	6,800	77.50

Common nuisances detected and abated through education were

- Overgrowth of weeds behind dwelling premises and undeveloped plots.
- Indiscriminate dumping of household refuse.
- Insanitary drains and stagnation of waste water in catch pits.
- Detrimental accumulation of articles (RPCs) in houses.

9.2.2 Eating Premises Inspection

TOWN/AREA COUNCIL	TOTAL NUMBER OF EATING HOUSES	TARGET	NUMBER OF EATING HOUSES INSPECTED	% OF EATING HOUSES INSPECTED
Wiamoase	15	15	15	100
Agona/Akrofonso	13	13	13	100
Jamasi	12	12	12	100
Kona	7	7	7	100
Asamang	6	6	6	100
Tano-Odumasi	6	6	6	100
Bepoase	6	6	6	100
Bipoa	8	8	8	100
Boanim	5	5	5	100
Total	78	78	78	100

Common nuisances detected were;

1. Cobwebs and dust on ceilings, louvers, floors.
2. Workers without medical certification.
3. Scatted fire woods.

9.2.2.1 ACTION TAKEN

1. Owners of eating premises were educated to keep their premises clean and also those without medical certification were asked to undergo medical examination.
2. Those who refuse to adhere to the education were issued with notices e.g. abatement notice.

9.2.3 Drinking Bars Inspections

TOWN/AREA COUNCIL	TOTAL NUMBER OF DRINKING BARS	TARGET	NUMBER OF DRINKING BARS INSPECTED	% OF DRINKING BARS INSPECTED
Wiamoase	18	18	18	100
Agona/Akrofonso	15	15	15	100
Jamasi	12	12	12	100
Kona	10	10	10	100
Asamang	12	12	12	100
Tano-Odumasi	8	8	8	100
Bepoase	11	11	11	100
Bipoa	13	13	13	100
Boanim	8	8	8	100
Total	107	107	107	100

Absence of disposable cups, workers without medical certification, and cobwebs on ceilings were common nuisances detected and abated.

9.2.4.0 Inspection/ Monitoring of Public Toilets.

Safeguarding, protecting and promoting the health of users of the various public toilets in the district is crucial, hence the environmental health and sanitation Unit embarked on the above mentioned activity. This was to ensure that managers of these public toilets adhere to rules and regulations prescribed in the privatization contract. The inspection was centered on;

1. Management of used papers.
2. Cleansing.
3. Sludge Management.
4. Environs
5. Structures
6. Safety Measures.

The inspection revealed that, the managers were not adhering to rules and regulations contained in the contract in terms of hygiene and sanitation. **Ten (10)** public toilets were visited.

9.3.0 MEETINGS

9.3.1 Staff meetings

Ten (10) staff meetings were held to review the performance of the Unit and devise strategies to deal with challenges encountered.

It was also noted that, inadequate funding and lack of logistics hampered the implementation of the Unit's action plan for the year

9.4 MARKET SANITATION

Regular supervision and monitoring of sanitary laborers working in the various market centers improved sanitation in the markets during the period under review.

9.5.0 ENVIRONMENTAL SANITATION EDUCATION.

9.5.1 Community Sensitization

The Unit, in its quest to ensure that Sanitation related diseases e.g *Cholera, Typhoid Fever* among other diseases does not occur in the district is the intensification of Environmental Sanitation Education. Environmental Health Officers used their routine premises inspection for the education.

Communities visited were **Domeabra, Tano-Odumase, Agona, Jamasi, Tabre, Dawu Boanim, Asamang, Afamanaso, Akrofonso**

Topics treated included

- Personal Hygiene
- Sanitary disposal of solid and liquid waste.
- Importance of eating balance diet.
- Importance of medical screening of food vendors.
- Importance of Environmental cleanliness.

9.5.2 Education to drinking bar operators on Noise Control

The Unit organized monthly sensitizations for drinking bar operators on the effects of their activities with respect to the noise they generate as a result of music they play in their drinking bars. They were educated on impact of excessive noise on health and that, they minimize the level of noise during their operations as they may be liable for prosecution in accordance with Act 851 Sec. **56 (c) and SSDA, Bye-Laws 2022, Sec.26 Sub-Sec. 10.**

9.5.3 Education to Information Centre Operators and Corn Millers on Noise Control

The Unit received **(14)** complaints from the public with respect to activities of information Centre Operators. In order to streamlined their operations, the Unit in collaboration with the information services department organized **(8)** sensitizations on the consequences of their activities on the health of the public. They were educated not to operate at odd times and also not

to make excessive noise as they shall be liable for prosecution in accordance with *Act 851 Sec. 56 (c) and SSDA, Bye-Laws 2022, Sec.26 Sub-Sec. 10.*

9.6 GREENING GHANA TREE PLANTING

The Unit actively participated in the greening Ghana tree planting during the year under review.

Total of (3,000) seedlings were distributed to the nine councils of the District. Namely, **Agona, Tano-Odumase, Jamasi, Kona, Wiamoase, Bepoase, Asamang, Bipoa and Boanim.** The Unit supervised the tree planting exercise effectively.

9.7 SLAUGHTERHOUSE DUTIES

During the year under reviewed, Environmental Health Officers at the various slaughterhouses monitored the activities of butchers to ensure wholesome production of meat to the general public.

The number of animals slaughtered is given as per the table below.

S/N	TOWN	NO. SLAUGHTERED			CONDITIONS DETECTED
		CATTLE	GOAT	SHEEP	
1	AGONA	1867	-	-	Localized TB, liver flukes, Pneumonia, , Cysticercus
2	WIAMOASE	-	-	-	Localized TB, liver flukes Pneumonia, Cysticercus
GRAND TOTAL		1,867	-	-	

9.6.1 Action Taken

- Affected parts were trimmed and disposed of sanitarily.

9.8.0 FOOD HYGIENE

9.8.1 Hygiene Education to Food Vendors and School feeding caterers

The Unit organized education for food vendors and School feeding caterers with the aim of ensuring that food vendors and caterers comply with accepted standards in their field of trade.

Total of **(1,501)** food vendors and caterers benefited from the education. Thus, **(1,501)** food vendors and **(50)** school feeding caterers.

Topics treated include;

- Engaging in annual screening exercise.
- Personal hygiene.
- Hand washing with soap.
- Covering food against houseflies.
- Proper and hygienic waste management.
- Preparation of balance diet meals (Nutrition).
- Proper storage of food.

9.8 2 Food Vendors Medical Screening Exercise

In the quest to ensure that foods and drinks meant for sale to the general public are rendered wholesome and in accordance with *Act 29 of 1960 Section 286, Public Health Act 851 Of 2012 Section 51, Sekyere South District Assembly Bye-laws 2020 Section 10 Sub-Sec 12(b) and Section 29 Sub-Sec 6*, the Unit in collaboration with Hanson Ghana Diagnostics organized medical screening for food and drink handlers in the District. A total of ***One Thousand, Five Hundred and One (1,501)*** vendors were screened with **(54)** vendors reacting to the Widal test and these affected food vendors were asked to visit the hospital for treatment. The Unit is monitoring them to ensure compliance.

9.8.3 Monitoring of Food Vendors Certification to ensure compliance

The Unit carried out vigorous monitoring of food vendors in the district to ensure that food vendors who are not captured in the main screening exercise are made to undergo the screening

exercise. A total of (30) food, drink and beverages vendors were identified selling without been screened and certified. These identified vendors who are not certified were asked to undergo the medical screening for certification to enable them continue with their trade.

9.9.0 COMMUNAL LABOUR

Fourteen (14) communal labour activities were organized by communities in with the support and participation of the District Assembly. Sanitary tools such as wheel barrows, rakes, shovels, long brooms as well fuel for the refuse truck for the collection of refuse were to enhance successful organization of the exercise, The communities are **Asamang, Agona (faith congregation), Akrofonso, Bipoa, Bedomase , Afamanaso and Agona Town**

The activities carried out during the exercises were; raking, burning, weeding at refuse dump sites and desilting choked drains.

Environmental Health Officers supervised the exercise.

9.9.1 Clean-Up Exercise

The Assembly, led by the Unit organized *Ten (10)* clean up exercises in collaboration with Zoomlion Ghana Limited in **Agona, Jamasi, Asamang, Wiamoase, Bepoase, Bipoa, Boanim, Tano -Odumase. Abrakaso, Akrofonso, Bedomase, Afamanaso and Tabri**. Refuse were swept, collected and disposed at the final disposal site. Market centers and lorry stations were not left out in these exercises.

9.10.0 HOTEL/GUESTHOUSE/SACHET WATER FACTORY INSPECTION

Sanitary inspection was conducted on (2) hotels and (1) guesthouse and (2) Sachet water factories during the year under review. They are *Buffalo Royal Hotel, Hidden Hills Hotel and Suites, Slumber Lodge Guesthouse, J.Y. Purified Drinking water and Barima Nsuo*.

Nuisances detected during the inspections were

- Absence of medical Certificate of fitness of workers.
- Absence of operational permits from the District Assembly.

- Unauthorized dumping of refuse among others.
- Broken louver blades.
- Absence of soak away pit to receive waste water leading waste water stagnation and breeding of mosquitoes.

9.10.1 ACTION TAKEN

1. Managers of these facilities were invited to the office for further education to enable them abate the nuisances.

9.11 INSPECTION OF PROVISION STORES

The sale of expired items in provision stores in Ghana is on the ascendency and this District is not exceptional with respect to this illegal practice and its associated health hazards. From the foregoing, Environmental Health Practitioners inspected items (**can drinks, tin milk, bottled drinks and water, tin and paper tomatoes etc**) in **Hundred (100)** provision stores specifically in **Kona, Agona, Jamasi. Odumase-Zongo**

The operators were educated to always check and avoid the sale of expired items since is dangerous and illegal. However, expired items seen at the time of the inspections were seized and brought to the office for destruction.

9.12 INSPECTION OF AGONA S.D.A S.H.S

A team from the Environmental Health and Sanitation Unit conducted sanitary inspection at the above mentioned school.

The following nuisances were detected as at the time of the inspection.

- Indiscriminate disposal of refuse
- Overgrowth of weeds on premises.
- Presence of bedbugs.

- Insanitary toilets, urinals, bathrooms and dormitories of the male students.

A comprehensive report detailing health effects of nuisances detected and recommendations was submitted to the school authority

10.0 ACHIEVEMENTS

1. Supervised and monitored sanitary labourers,
2. Inspected/monitored **(10)** privatized public toilets, **(2)** Hotels and **(1)** guesthouse and **(2)** sachet water factories.
3. Successfully inspected **(6,800)** houses, **(78)** eating premises, **(107)** drinking bars representing **(77.50%)**, **(100%)** and **(100%)** respectively.
4. Successfully held **(10)** staff meetings, supervised fumigation exercise, communal labour activities and privatized **(4)** public toilets.
5. Organized sensitization on Personal Hygiene, Proper disposal of solid and liquid waste for food vendors, community members, market women and students/pupils successfully and medically screened **(1,501)** food vendors/handlers.
6. Successfully increased the construction of household toilet facilities by **6.58%**.

11.0 CHALLENGES

1. Inadequate sanitary tools/materials for effective service delivery.
2. Inadequate funds to implement the action plan for the year.
3. Delay in lifting of door-to-door dustbins by Zoom lion Ghana Limited resulting in series of complaints by clients.
4. Inadequate communal refuse containers leading to dumping of refuse of at unauthorized places

12.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Supply adequate sanitary tools/materials for effective service delivery.
2. Timeous release of funds to implement the Unit's activities.
3. Timeous lifting of door-to-door dustbins to avoid complaints and unauthorized refuse disposal by clients.
4. Procure additional refuse containers.

13.0 WAYFORWARD

1. Intensification of hygiene education in the various communities through forums, school Programme etc.
2. Intensification of premises inspections for the abatement of nuisances detrimental to health.
3. Prosecution of recalcitrant sanitary offenders

14.0 CONCLUSION

Environmental Sanitation has improved quite significantly. It is therefore hoped that, the above recommendations are implemented to avert the outbreak of any sanitation related disease e.g. Cholera.