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TRIP REPORT:

GHANA

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Dates of In-Country Work:
April 5 - 11, 1986

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Johns Hopkins University/Population Communication Services Senior Program Officer, Dr. Maxwell Senior, visited Ghana April 5-11, 1986 at the invitation of the AID Population Officer, Dr. Ray Kirkland. The purpose of the visit was two-fold: a) to participate in the four-day National Conference on Population and National Reconstruction; and b) to meet with officials of the Ministry of Health (MOH) Maternal Child Health/Family Planning (MCH/FP) division to initiate the development of the national IEC plan for the MOH. Senior met with officials of the MOH and introduced Ms. Wilma Lynn, JHU/PCS Senior Program Officer, who would remain in-country to work with the MOH personnel to continue to develop the IEC Plan. Meetings were held with Dr. Charlotte Gardiner, Director, MCH/FP; Mrs. Martha Osei, Director, Health Education Division (HED); and Mrs. Mary Arday-Kotei also of the HED.

A meeting was also held with the Population Officer and the Assistant Population Officer, Mrs. Joanna Laryea, to introduce Ms. Lynn and to review the scope of work which was to be undertaken during Ms. Lynn's work in-country.

LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

- GNFPP - Ghana National Family Planning Program
- HED - Health Education Division
- IEC - Information, Education and Communication
- JHU/PCS - The Johns Hopkins University/Population Communication Services
- MCH/FP - Maternal and Child Health/Family Planning
- MOH - Ministry of Health
- USAID - United States Agency for International Development

IN-COUNTRY ACTIVITIES

A. Overview

The Johns Hopkins University/Population Communication Services Senior Program Officer, Maxwell S. Senior, visited Ghana April 5-11, 1986. The purpose of the visit was to participate in the four-day National Conference on Population and National Reconstruction and to meet with officials of the MOH to initiate the development of the national IEC plan as part of the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) Contraceptive Supplies Project with the MOH. The development of the IEC plan was the second of a two part assignment that JHU/PCS had agreed to undertake for USAID in the Ghana Contraceptive Supplies Project. Part one was undertaken in November 1985 by Maxwell Senior, who has responsibility for Ghana, and by Mrs. Margaret Parlato, JHU/PCS Senior Program Officer. The assignment was to conduct a comprehensive FP IEC needs assessment for the public and private sectors. Part two was to develop a plan to meet the IEC needs that were identified in the November 1985 study.

While in-country, Senior was joined by Ms. Wilma Lynn, JHU/PCS Senior Program Officer, who remained in-country to continue working on the IEC plan, since Senior had other commitments and was unable to spend more than five days in Ghana.

B. National Population Conference

Most of the time in-country was spent at the National Population Conference. The objectives of the conference were: 1) to discuss issues on Ghana population policy and the economic recovery program; and 2) to re-kindle public awareness of FP and population issues. An important outcome of the Conference was a series of draft recommendations to be submitted to the Government for its consideration. Appendix C includes these recommendations.

Another purpose of the Conference was to launch officially the Contraceptive Social Marketing Program, a component of the USAID Contraceptive Supplies Project.

C. Ministry of Health Working Sessions

Senior and Lynn met officials of the MOH who included: Dr. Otto, Director of Medical Services; Dr. Alexander Adibo, Deputy Director Medical Services; Dr. Charlotte Gardiner, Director, MCH/FP; Mrs. Martha Osei, Director, HED; and Mrs. Mary Arday-Kotei, also of the HED. Working sessions were held with Dr. Gardiner, Mrs. Osei and Mrs. Arday-Kotei. The meetings focused on the purposes of the proposed IEC plan and the expectations of the HED in meeting the needs of the MOH in the provision of IEC. Some primary objectives of the proposed IEC activities were drawn up, later refined and modified, and then included into the final IEC plan. Discussions also identified some preliminary training needs to strengthen MOH IEC capabilities. These training needs were later modified and formed the core of the first year activities of the IEC Plan.

Senior and Lynn also met with the Population Officer, Dr. Ray Kirkland, and the Assistant Population Officer, Mrs. Joanna Laryea. The meeting focused on the scope of work that Ms. Lynn was expected to undertake during her stay in-country and some long-term expectations of the AID project, specifically, in respect to the IEC component. Senior also had informal meetings with several other people including: Mr. Martin Tay, IEC Director, Ghana National Family Planning Project; Mrs. Catherine Addo, Training Officer from the Ghana National Family Planning Project; Professor Paul Ansah, School of Communication Studies, University of Ghana; Mr. David K. Bedele, Lecturer in Population Geography at the University of Science and Technology; Dr. Sylvester Kwakye, Lecturer, Population Studies Ghana Institute of Management and Public Administration; and Dr. Ahmadu Fadlu-Deen, Program Development Advisor, United Nations Fund for Population Activities.

LIST OF CONTACTS

Ministry of Health

Dr. Otto, Director, Medical Services
Dr. Adibo, Deputy Director, Medical Services
Dr. Charlotte Gardiner, Director, MCH/FP
Mrs. Martha Osei, Director, HED
Mrs. Mary Arday-Kctei, staff HED

Ghana National Family Planning Project

Mr. Martin Tay, Director, IEC
Mrs. Catherine Addo, Director, Training

Ghana Institute of Management and Public Administration

Dr. Sylvester Kwakye, Lecturer, Population Studies

University of Ghana - Legon

Professor Paul Ansah, School of Communication Studies

University of Science and Technology - Kumasi

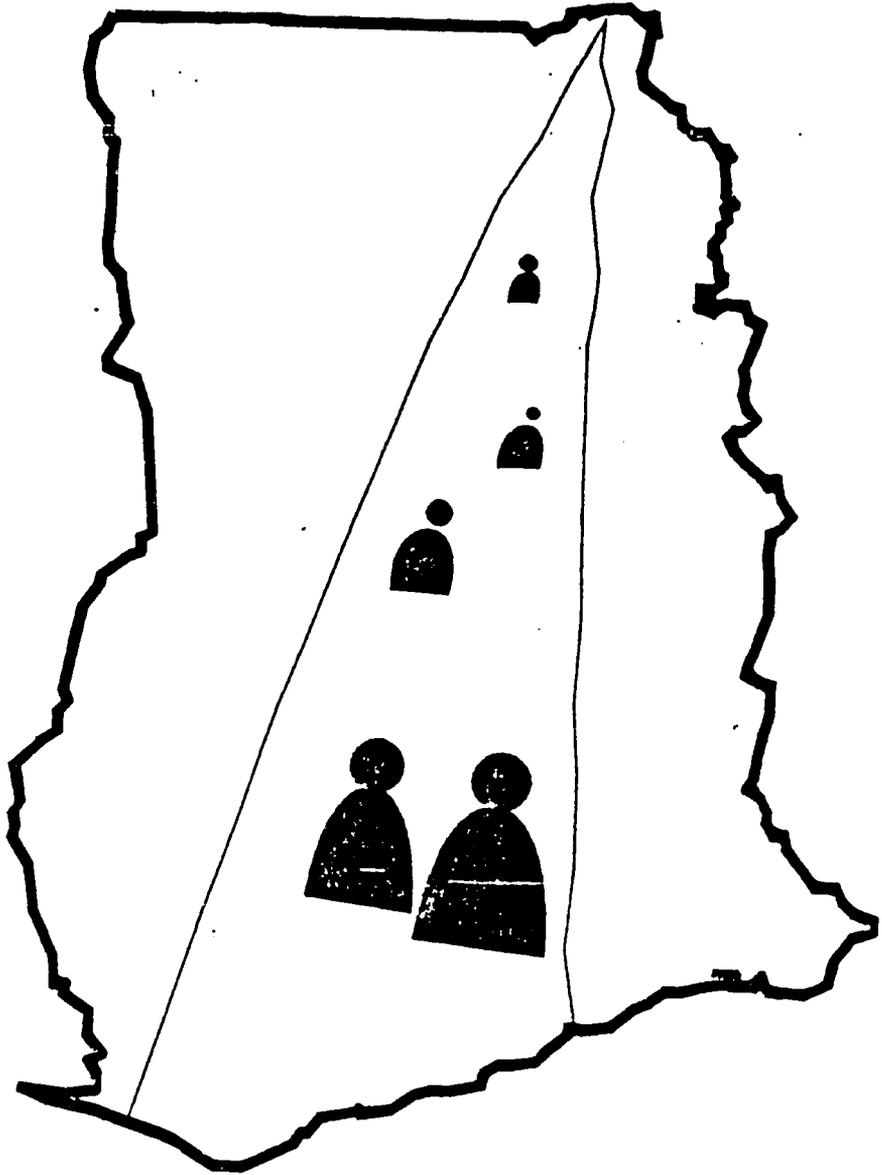
Mr. David Bedele, Lecturer, Population Geography

United Nations Funds for Populations Activities

Dr. Fadlu-Deen, Program Development Advisor

United States Agency for International Development

Dr. Ray Kirkland, Population Officer
Mrs. Joanna Laryea, Assistant Population Officer



Ghana National Conference on
Population and National Reconstruction
University of Ghana, Legon
April 7-10, 1986

**Monday
April 7**

AGENDA

- 9:00 a.m. Registration; distribution of folders and vouchers.
- 10:00 a.m. Information on Organization of the Conference By Conference Director, Dr. Ben Gyepi-Garbrah; population questionnaire.
- 10:30 a.m. **Official Opening of Conference,**
Dr. C.S. Okoye, Officer-in-Charge
Introduction of Chairman by Director of Regional Institute for Population Studies (RIPS), Legon.
Opening Remarks. Conference Chairman: Nana Wereko Ampem II, Gyasehene of Akuapem Traditional Area, former Commissioner for Economic Affairs and former Government Statistician.
- 10:40 a.m. Welcome Address by Professor Akilagpa Sawyer,
Vice-Chancellor, University of Ghana, Legon.
E. P. D. Vice - Beney
- 10:50 a.m. Opening Address by Dr. Kwesi Botchway, PNDC Secretary for Finance and Economic Planning. *> NJ*
- 11:15 a.m. Address by Dr. (Mrs.) Mary Grant, PNDC Under Secretary for Health.
- 11:30 a.m. Keynote Address by Dr. Fred T. Sai, Senior Advisor for Population, Health and Nutrition, the World Bank, Washington, D.C., and former Director of Ghana Medical Services.
- 12:00-2:00 p.m. Lunch Break
- SESSION I—The Status of Family Planning and Its Role in National Reconstruction**
Chairman: Mr. S.K. Kwafo, Acting Executive Director, Ghana National Family Planning Programme, Accra.
- 2:00 p.m. Introduction to Session by Dr. John Nabila, Geography Department, University of Ghana, Legon.

Monday
April 7 continued

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- 3:00 p.m. Small Group Discussions (See Group Discussion Schedule).
 - 4:00 p.m. Reports of the Small Groups.
 - 5:00 p.m. RAPID Presentation.
 - 5:30 p.m. Conference Wrap-up by Dr. Gyepi-Garbrah.

Tuesday
April 8

SESSION II—Maternal/Child Health and Adolescent Fertility

Chairperson: Mrs. M.N. Hornsby-Odoi, Director of Nursing Services, Ministry of Health, Accra.

- 9:00 a.m. Introduction to Session, Professor D.A. Ampofo, University of Ghana Medical School, Korle-Bu, Accra.
- 10:00 a.m. Refreshments
- 10:10 a.m. Small Group Discussions (See Group Discussion Schedule).
- 11:10 a.m. Reports of the Small Groups.
- 12:10 p.m. Lunch Break

SESSION III—Population Growth and the Nation's Resources

Chairman: Dr. E. Oti Boateng, Government Statistician, Statistical Services, Accra.

- 2:00 p.m. Introduction to Session by Professor George Benneh, Pro-Vice Chancellor and Head of Geography Department, University of Ghana, Legon.
- 3:00 p.m. Refreshments

3:10 p.m. Small Group Discussions (See Group Discussion Schedule).

4:00 p.m. Reports of the Small Groups.

5:00 p.m. Wrap-up by Dr. Gyepi-Garbrah.

**Wednesday
April 9**

SESSION IV—Gender Roles and Social Perceptions on Population

Chairperson: Professor Florence Dolphyne,
Chairperson, National Council on Women and
Development, Accra.

9:00 a.m. Introduction to Session by Professor Miranda Greenstreet, Institute of Adult Education, University of Ghana, Legon.

10:00 a.m. Refreshments

10:10 a.m. Small Group Discussions (See Group Discussion Schedule).

11:00 a.m. Reports of the Small Groups.

12:00 p.m. Lunch Break

SESSION V—Family Planning Programme in Ghana: Emerging Trends

Chairman: Dr. J.D. Otoo, Director of Medical Services, Ministry of Health, Accra.

2:00 p.m. Introduction to Session by Dr. Charlotte Gardiner, Head of Maternal/Child Health and Family Planning Division, Ministry of Health, Accra.

3:00 p.m. Refreshments

3:10 p.m. Small Group Discussions (See Group Discussion Schedule).

Wednesday
April 9 continued

- 4:00 p.m. Reports of the Small Groups.
- 5:00 p.m. Wrap-up by Dr. Gyepi-Garbrah.
- 6:00 p.m. Closing Dinner
Miss Joyce Aryee, PNDC Secretary for Education,
Guest Speaker; Ghanaian Dance Troupe.

Thursday
April 10

**SESSION VI—Challenge to Participants;
Conference Closing**

- 9:00 a.m. Conference Chairman: Nana Werekó Ampem II,
Gyasehene of Akuapem Traditional Area,
former Commissioner for Economic Affairs and
former Government Statistician.
- 9:10 a.m. Small Group Development of Recommendations by Sectors:
• Family Planning and Health
• Education
• Agriculture and Nutrition
• Women's Roles
• Labour, Employment and Economic
Development
• Migration and Urbanization
- 10:30 a.m. Refreshments
- 10:45 a.m. Presentation of Sectoral Recommendations.
- 11:45 a.m. Adoption of Recommendations and Closing Remarks
by Chairman.
- 12:15 p.m. Final Comments and Challenge to Participants,
Dr. Gyepi-Garbrah.
- 12:30 p.m. Closing Address by Dr. Totobi Quakyi, Under
Secretary for Information.
- 12:45 p.m. Lunch and reimbursements

THE LEGON PLAN OF ACTION ON POPULATIONIntroduction

The 1986 National Conference on Population and National Re-construction, held at Legon from April 7th- 10th had the following objectives: to discuss issues on Ghana's population policy and the economic recovery programme, and to re-kindle awareness of these issues. This document, the Legon Plan of Action on Population, is the outcome of the conference deliberations.

Preamble

We, the participants of the Ghana National Conference on Population and Re-construction, BEING AWARE of the problems of unrestrained population growth, REALISING THE NEED to formulate and implement an acceptable programme on population control, DESIROUS of an improved quality of life for all Ghanaians, RECOGNISING the effects of governments at various times to address the population question, and NOTING with REGRET the absence of sustained effort in that direction, do hereby make the following observations and recommendations:

I. Health, Maternal and Child-Health and Family Planning

1. The conference recognises that the organisational and institutional framework within which the National Family Planning programme operated in the past was the main source of problems of implementation and therefore recommends that the National Family Planning Programme be re-structured into a National Population Commission representing the interests of both the public and private sector organisations and that a Population and Human Resources Secretariat should be established within the Ministry of Finance and Economic Planning to service the National Population Commission. Such a secretariat will only be a Co-ordinating Agency while other agencies in both the public and private sectors implement programmes on population.
2. Contraceptives should be made accessible as well as available through improvement of Contraceptive Social Marketing (CSM) as well as formal outlets. It is only through such community based contraceptive delivery systems that we can narrow the current wide gap between

knowledge, acceptance (70%) AND use of contraceptives (only 12%) as revealed by the Ghana Fertility Survey.

3. As a long-term goal the country should consider the production of its own contraceptives.
4. Awareness of natural family planning should be increased. It should be fully recognised as one of the family planning methods and incorporated in training programmes of all health workers involved in family planning.
5. Family Planning should be an integral part of health services such that health workers can suggest birth control to people whose fertility or health status indicates that they need it.
6. There should be greater emphasis on men as targets of family planning drives.

II. Education - With Special Emphasis on Family-Life Education

Preamble

Education is an important investment, hence free and compulsory relevant education for the first and second cycles should be implemented. Education promotes reduction of family-size preferences and the inclusion of family-life education will enhance this effect.

Recommendations

1. It is recommended that family life education and sex education be fully integrated into the teacher-training and school curricula and that these topics be included in school examinations to ensure that they are actually taught. We recommend that the curricula developed so far by the Ministry of Education be implemented, and also that communications on family planning to the illiterate and rural communities should be strengthened.

2. Access to formal education including secondary schools should not be denied to women who have already borne children.
3. Materials should be produced to make it easier for parents to introduce the subject of sex education to their children.
4. We recommend more intensive drives to reach the rural and illiterate communities with Family Planning messages. This include adult education programmes, and mass communications methods such as radio, T.V., and other audio-visual methods.

III. Population, Agriculture and Nutrition

Preamble

The conference noted the relationship between population, food production and nutrition. It observed that while Ghana's population is increasing at a fast rate, growth in agricultural production, especially the food sector has been poor. This has led to increase in the incidence of malnutrition among sections of Ghanaian population.

Recommendations

1. Since the greater majority of people derive their employment and income from agriculture, a strategy that seeks to raise productivity of the broad mass of small farmers should be adopted. Such a strategy would generate employment, raise rural incomes and improve the living conditions of the rural poor;
2. Pricing policies should be based on the improvement in the terms of trade for agriculture in order to encourage farmers to adopt new technologies, practices and innovations that raise their productivity;

3. Marketing arrangements need to be improved.
4. The input delivery system needs to be improved and augmented with improved availability of consumer goods to rural dwellers to stimulate supply response from farmers;
5. Irrigation agriculture should also be developed especially in the dry regions of the country;
6. There is also the need to improve the storage systems both modern and traditional in order to reduce the amount of food lost during storage;
7. The Government should increase its support for adaptive and basic research in order to build and sustain the foundation for a better production performance in the agricultural sector.
8. To improve the availability of protein intake by the Ghanaian population, it is recommended that small ruminant production should be encouraged. This could also lead to the adoption of integrated livestock production systems.
9. The extension services should be improved to make research results available to farmers.
10. It is recommended that nutrition policy be linked with agricultural production policy.
11. Breast feeding should be encouraged to prevent malnutrition of infants.
12. Locally produced weaning foods should be encouraged.

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IV. Women and Development

Preamble

The conference recognised the fact that women constitute more than 50% of the population but that they are not given enough opportunity to contribute meaningfully to national development due mainly to

- (a) cultural and traditional attitudes and beliefs about the role of women in society.
- (b) the general low level of education of women and
- (c) absence of women in decision-making positions.

Recommendations:

The conference recommends that

1. Widowhood rites should be completely abolished. The law on widowhood rites should be amended to eliminate the element of choice.
2. The labour law that disallows women from night work and from working underground should be amended to allow women the choice of working under these conditions.
3. Occupational status should be on the basis of qualification and ability and not on sex.
4. Qualified and competent women should be put to serve on statutory bodies to enhance women's participation at all levels.
5. Avenues should be created for girls who drop out of school as a result of pregnancy to continue their education. The Ghana Education Service should study the problem and work out suitable programmes for such girls.

6. Women's voluntary organisations should be keenly aware of issues affecting women and they should work together as pressure groups to effect the desired changes in the status of women, especially in the area of legislation.

V. Human Resources and Economic Development

Preamble

The relationship between education, human resources, and man-power is a complex one, the study of which deserves great attention.

1. Appointments should be made on the basis of qualifications, experience and ability and not on sex alone.
2. Education should be made more relevant to the man-power needs of the nation so that employment problems are not exacerbated.
3. We recommend that Family Planning be promoted alongside other strategies for reducing the dependency ratio in the population, e.g. providing relevant training or re-training for handicapped and elderly workers.
4. There is need for a comprehensive man-power survey to assist in planning for national development.
5. We recognise that the current mode of production in rural areas requires children's labour and that without modernisation of production methods rural people will have no motivation to limit family size.

VI. Migration and Urbanization

Preamble

Rural-Urban migration and rapid urbanization in Ghana are determined by the interaction of the fundamental socio-economic, ecological and biological forces including rapid population growth. Factors which push people from rural areas conversely act as pull factors for people in urban areas.

That the problems existing in our modern centres as a result of the rapid rate of urbanisation, such as over-crowding, poor sanitation, ruralization of urban centres, increased crime and prostitution.

Recommendations

The conference recommends the following strategies in order to stem the rapid urbanization:

1. Integrated rural development should be implemented in the rural sector which currently constitutes about 70% of the nation, in order to offer rural folks what intending migrants may look for in the urban centres. However in the implementation development projects in rural areas, care must be taken not to raise their expectations beyond the capability of Government and also to unfulfilled levels which may in the long run be counter-productive and only push them to migrate instead of anchoring them to rural areas.
2. In the urban areas the increasing degree of poor sanitation calls for drastic measures to improve the situation such as a considerable increase in the number of public toilet facilities. It is a known fact that in almost all our urban centres the existing public facilities were built more than 10 years ago. There is therefore the need to provide more new facilities and not only redecorate old facilities which are highly insufficient and out-moded. KVIP systems are highly recommended.

3. In view of the serious housing problems existing in our urban centres the following strategies should be carried out:

- (a) The town and Country Planning Department should undertake proper Landuse Planning for Human Settlements at a rate faster than the public demand for land development purposes.
- (b) There should be the integration of spatial and economic planning in order to promote a mutual-relationship between the growth of urban and rural resettlements.
- (c) The Government's financial resources for housing production should be directed to provide the "means" for housing development and not the "ends". That is, government institutions responsible for housing should concern themselves with increasing the supply of building materials, services and land to the public. The responsibility of actual housing construction should largely rest with individuals. In other words, the government resources for housing development should be disbursed in a way that will stimulate the investment of private resources into the housing industry in a more mutually - supportive approach.

VII General Recommendations

1. There is the need for a post-conference seminar on the findings of the Ghana Fertility Survey conducted in 1979-1980 and for further research into fertility and other population issues.
2. There is a need to overhaul and put more resources into the system for registering births and deaths, such that it can be a data source for monitoring population trends.
3. Government must make the resources available to implement the recommendations regarding population problems.
4. The basic tenets of the Ghana Population Policy are valid, and that policy should be faithfully implemented.

GSMMP
GHANA
SOCIAL
MARKETING
PROGRAMME

THE GHANA CONTRACEPTIVE SOCIAL MARKETING
PROGRAMME 1986

THE GHANA CONTRACEPTIVE SOCIAL MARKETING PROGRAMME 1986

Every year far too many women and children die or are hospitalised as a direct consequence of mothers having too many children too closely together. The *spacing* of children is a prime goal of primary health care. An effective method to space children is through the correct use of modern contraceptives which enables couples to have children by choice, not by chance.

In its primary health care drive, the Ministry of Health is attempting to provide couples wishing to contracept with easy and affordable access to, and knowledge of, modern contraceptives. To achieve these objectives, the Ministry will continue to offer high quality contraceptives at subsidized prices through its clinics, as well as regular dissemination of information on family planning. In addition, the Ministry is involved in launching a new Contraceptive Social Marketing Programme. The last of two previous such programmes in Ghana, ceased operating in 1983.

Contraceptive Social Marketing (CSM) is a means of delivering contraceptives and family planning information to the public by use of proven marketing methods and existing commercial distribution and service channels. In such programmes high quality contraceptives are generally provided at subsidized retail prices which are affordable to the average person. CSM has been shown time and again to be a method which complement distribution methods already in use in both public and private sectors.

The new Ghana CSM Programme will make contraceptives and information available to those men and women who, for whatever reason, do not use, or have no access to, clinic-based services, and who cannot afford commercial sector contraceptives at prevailing prices.

To implement the programme the Ministry has chosen DANAFSCO LIMITED, a wholly Ghanaian owned company. Danafco was selected from a range of companies because of its experience with the previous Contraceptive Social Market-

ing Programme, its extensive distributive network within Ghana, and its proven packaging and processing capabilities.

The programme will initially market three products - Panther Condoms, Ovacon Oral Contraceptives and Kamal Vaginal Foaming Tablets. In the future it is planned to add other health products to the programme.

An exciting feature of this new programme is the presentation of a series of seminars in modern contraceptive technology which is being given by Pharmahealth Centre Ltd. and is available to pharmacists and chemical sellers nationwide. A principal objective of this training is to make available in Ghana an additional 4,000 sources of knowledge on modern contraception so that couples can have access to information more readily to enable them make informed choices.

In addition, the CSM Programme will entail mass media activity aimed at increasing the levels of awareness and knowledge of modern contraception methods, especially their safety and effectiveness.

The three contraceptive products in the programme will be launched sequentially, with Panther Condoms scheduled for April this year, followed by Kamal vaginal foaming tablets then Ovacon oral contraceptives at approximately 6 months intervals.

For further information, please contact G.S.M.P., The Ghana Social Marketing Programme, P.O. Box 5260, Accra, Ghana.