

CASE STUDY

Names:

Vincent Annan, Abena Amponsaa Asante–Asare, Cadmond Dadzie, Ato Van-Ess, Emmanuel Otoo, Matthew Ade

Title:

Personnel of The Sekondi-Takoradi Chamber of Commerce and Industry (STCCI)

Country:

Ghana

IM4DC Programs:

1. Local Procurement Study Tour 2012m South Africa and Australia (VA)
2. Developing Local SME Suppliers for Mining, Oil & Gas Sectors 2013, Ghana(VA, AA, CD, AV, EO, MA)
3. Community Aspects of Resource Developments 2013, Australia (AA)
4. Alumni Forum, 2014, Australia (AA)
5. Occupational Health & Safety Leadership Course 2014, Australia (VA)
6. Ghana Alumni Day, 2015 (VA, AA, GD, AV, EO, MA)

The Sekondi-Takoradi Chamber of Commerce and Industry (STCCI) identified that local companies in the Western Region of Ghana find it difficult to participate in the supply chain servicing large companies, as they do not meet the required standards for occupational health and safety (OHS) management systems. This issue particularly affects Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs), as they do not have the resources or skills to develop and implement an effective system.

STCCI, in collaboration with IM4DC and the Australian High Commission, Ghana, has developed a programme named 'Health & Safety Systems Development and Management Coaching Project for Small & Medium Enterprises'. The programme seeks to train local experts (HSE Coaches) to provide technical support to member companies of the Chamber in developing functional OHS Management Systems. In the first in a series of Capacity Building activities, 35 young Ghanaians attended a training course developed with IM4DC funding by the Minerals Industry Safety & Health Centre (MISHC) of the University of Queensland. A service guide/tool kit on the development and implementation of OHS management systems and policies for SMEs was also produced.

IM4DC has been the lead partner in the strategic activities STCCI has undertaken over the past three years aimed at helping to achieve an appreciable level of local procurement in the extractive sector of Ghana. In 2012, Vincent Annan, now CEO of STCCI, participated in a Local Procurement Study Tour of South Africa and Australia and the lessons learnt convinced STCCI of the need to adopt practical and innovative ways to address local procurement /local content challenges.

In April 2013, STCCI, in collaboration with IM4DC, organised a Local Procurement Short Course attended by lead managers of mining and oil and gas companies. The course was aimed at equipping Procurement and other managers within the extractives sector with the requisite skills and knowledge needed to develop local Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises for the extractive sector. The training addressed local procurement challenges from the point of view of the buyer or the big companies in the extractive sector.

STCCI's successes include:

Influencing national policy direction

1. Establishing the first Ghana Extractive Industry Safety Conference (GEISC 2015)
IM4DC sponsored two conference speakers from MISHC and 10 IM4DC and AAPF Alumni to participate. The conference aims included to:
 - create a platform for Government and other stakeholders to discuss the nature of OHS policy in Ghana including scope, awareness, enforcement and compliance
 - create a platform for sharing knowledge in terms of new trends, technology, experience, etc., by practitioners, local and international experts
 - create a platform for networking
 - create a learning environment opportunity especially for local businesses on the subject
 - advocate for the development of a comprehensive national policy on OHS

2. Advocacy: STCCI in 2012 – 2013 advocated strongly for the speedy passage of the Oil and Gas Local Content bill into law, which was passed in November 2013.

Capacity building

The Local Procurement short course created the opportunity for mining and oil & gas companies, including Newmont Ghana and MODEC Ghana, to describe the challenges they encounter in their local procurement efforts, such as non-conformity to OHS and quality standards, financial capacity and inability to stick to timelines. STCCI is undertaking interventions to address these challenges.

Improved image

As a result of the vibrancy of STCCI, as exhibited in its innovative approaches to addressing challenges, the realisation of effective and impactful local procurement, and the many other important poverty alleviation services provided, such as its HSE capacity building projects, Cooperative Credit Union and Business Dispute Resolution Service, STCCI is now identified as an important organisation amongst Ghana's Business Support Organisations.

Ultimately, STCCI is looking to a future where:

- there is excellent capacity to deliver quality services to its members
- there are sustained streams of income to support service delivery
- it is effective in contributing to and influencing National policies that affect the private sector of Ghana
- it helps improve members' capacities in conforming to standards such as OHS and Quality, thus removing local procurement barriers

STCCI will continue to seek opportunities for building capacities to effectively provide wide ranging services to members through national and international institutional linkages, to include:

- Occupational Health, Safety, Quality & Environment
- Project Management & Training
- Natural Resource Governance
- Local Enterprise Development
- Events Planning and Management
- Gender and the Extractive Industry's Supply Chain



Participants in the first Ghana Extractive Industry Safety Conference, 2015