

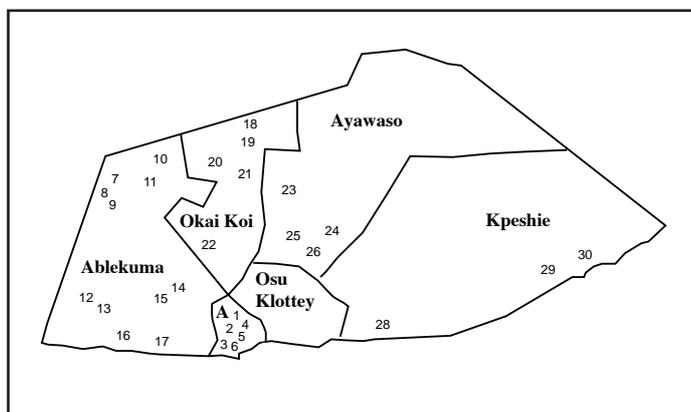


FOOD SUPPLY AND DISTRIBUTION TO ACCRA AND ITS METROPOLIS

Proceedings

AMA-FAO Workshop

Accra, Ghana, 13th •16th April 1998



organised by
the Accra Metropolitan Assembly (AMA)

under the auspices of
the FAO Regional Office for Africa
and of the
Marketing and Rural Finance Service
Agricultural Support Systems Division
FAO

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Front cover picture: Distribution of market sites in the AMA Sub-Districts.

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ACRONYMS

AMA	Accra Metropolitan Assembly
BoG	Bank of Ghana
DCE	District Chief Executive
DTC	Developing Countries and Countries in Transition
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
FFI	Formal Financial Institutions
FSDS	Food Supply and Distribution Systems
GEPC	Ghana Export Promotion Council
GSB	Ghana Standard Board
ISD	Information Services Department
LA	Local Authorities
MoF	Ministry of Finance and Economic Planning
MFA	Ministry of Food and Agriculture
MoH	Ministry of Health
MoT	Ministry of Trade
SSA	Sub-Saharan Africa

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INTRODUCTION

The Accra Metropolitan Assembly (AMA):

- was created as the pivot of administrative and developmental decision-making in the District and, therefore, the basic unit of government administration;
- was assigned with deliberative, legislative, as well as executive functions under law;
- was established as a monolithic structure to which is assigned the responsibility of the totality of the government to bring about integration of political, administrative and development support;
- was constituted as the Planning Authority for the district
- is responsible for the construction, operation and management of all markets within Accra and its Metropolis.
- is responsible for market security and safety.

The AMA organised a workshop *Food Supply and Distribution to Accra and its Metropolis*, sponsored by the FAO. This workshop, held in Accra from 13 to 17 April 1998, gathered representatives of all interest groups (food producers, traders and transporters as well as urban consumers) who met for the first time to discuss issues of common interest

The workshop set out to:

- review the major constraints affecting food supply and distribution systems (FSDS) in Metropolitan Accra;
- examine the possible solutions and the required interventions in the short and medium terms.

Five themes were assigned for discussion in work groups:

- Improving the efficiency and dynamism of marketing channels, storage and processing;
- Adapting urban market infrastructure and facilities to meet the food needs of the year 2020;
- Improving market planning, management, rules and regulations;
- Improving market information and promoting grading and standardisation;
- Role, constraints and performance of women food traders and youth employment in food marketing

Work-group discussions were directed towards the identification of specific problems, the expected consequences, the required interventions and the institutional responsibilities for undertaking corrective actions.

This document contains the proceedings of that workshop. Section A contains a brief discussion of issues such as urban expansion, the location of markets within Metropolitan Accra, the structure of its market channels, the organisation of food trade and its constraints, etc. Section B presents a summary of the workshop conclusions and recommendations. These can be implemented at very little cost and require a minimal amount of pre-planning. The recommendations of each work-group are detailed in Section C.

Section A

FOOD SUPPLY AND DISTRIBUTION SYSTEMS OF ACCRA AND ITS METROPOLIS

A.1 The City of Accra and its Metropolis

Urban growth has a number of direct and indirect consequences on food supply and distribution. All are relevant in any assessment of urban food security. For example, urban growth increases the demand for marketed food but reduces the availability of productive land. It modifies food-purchasing habits and makes existing market area and infrastructure inadequate, both in rural and urban areas.

“Urban growth also increases the price of land, intensifies traffic, alters the location of consumers, and modifies food consumption habits.” (Argenti, 1998).

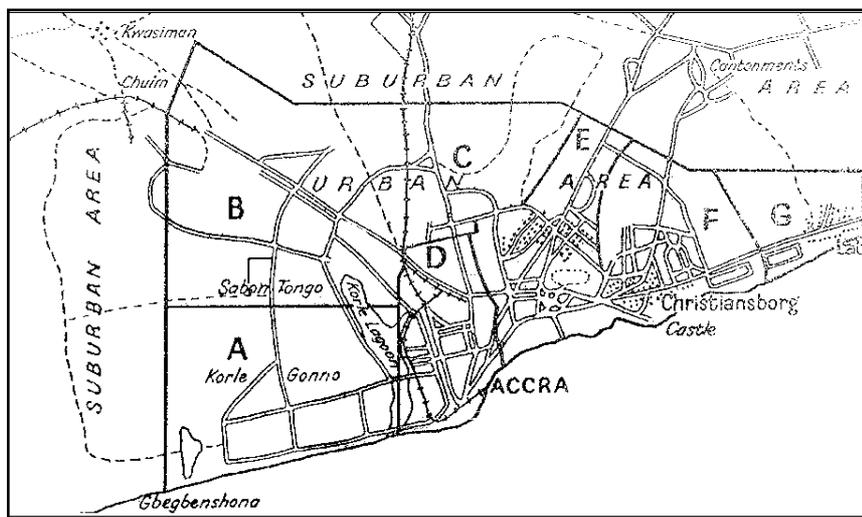
Map 1 is a representation of Accra and its Metropolis in 1943. Ten years later the increase in settlements made areas such as Achimota, Cantonments and West of Korle Gono (sub-urban areas in 1943) part of urban Accra (Map 2). The Master Plan map designed in the 1970s shows that residential settlements continue to expand.

The official annual rate of population growth in Ghana is 3% (Sackey, 1998) while that of the population of the Accra Metropolitan area is 3.4%. If the agricultural growth rate does not average 4 percent by the year 2000, then the food deficit would reach 778,000 Metric tonnes (Mt) in that year (Nyanteng, 1998 and Dapaah, 1997).

As Ghana approaches middle income status by year 2020, additional pressure on the food system will also come in terms of food variety and quality. In fact, food consumption patterns are likely to change away from inferior carbohydrates (such as cassava, cocoyam, plantain, and yam) to superior proteins (such as meat and dairy products), as well as more fruits and vegetables. The marketing of these perishable products requires greater sophistication in storage, quality control and distribution facilities.

In Accra, 95 percent of households purchase the food they consume. This means that when food prices increase, low-income families find it increasingly difficult to feed themselves. Food prices in Accra have been following an upward trend, with major staples increasing by 200 to 400 percent over the three-year period 1993-6 (de Lardemelle, 1996).

Official statistics indicate that the Greater Accra region is a deficit food production area. It must rely on production transported from the Forest zones, Transitional zones and further north from the Savannah areas. The arable agricultural sector performs erratically from year to year depen-



Map 1: Accra and its Metropolis in 1943.

dent mostly on rainwater. Food imports into the Accra Metropolis to supplement local production shortfalls are now a regular feature.

This situation thus poses the following questions:

- "Will food supply double to meet expected demand?";
- "What will be the cost at which food will reach the table of tomorrow's urban consumers?";
- "How sustainable are present forms of food supply and food import dependency, even in a two to five year horizon?"

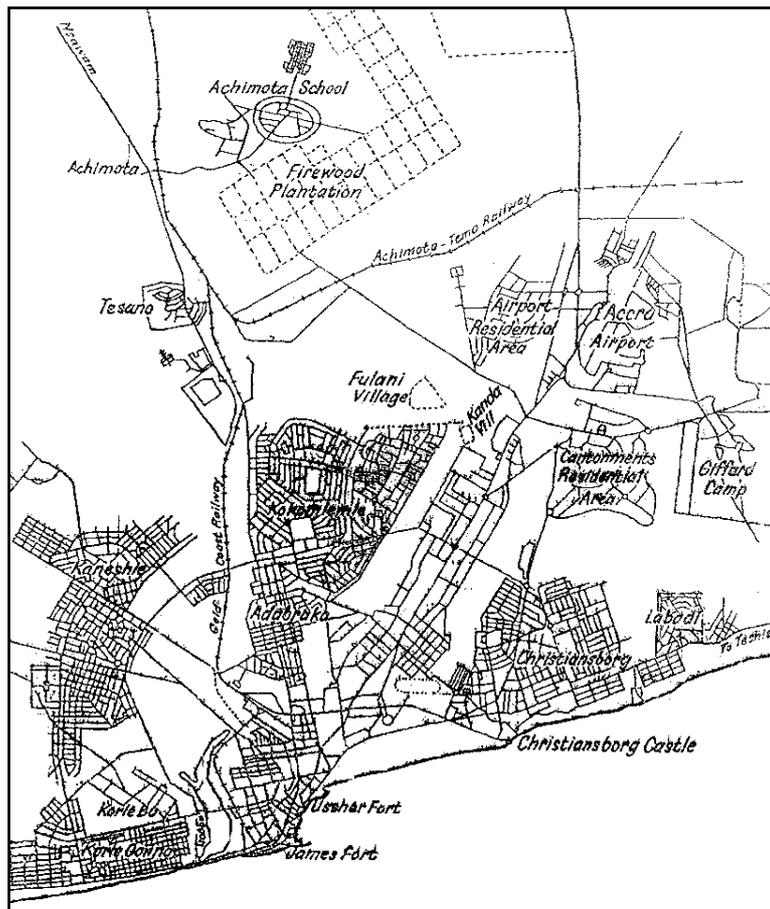
In answering the above questions, attention must be placed upon FSDS to Accra and its Metropolis, their efficiency and dynamism, as well as upon their ability to stimulate national production to meet increasing urban food requirements.

A.2 Food supply and distribution systems to Accra and its Metropolis

State interventions through Marketing Boards having mostly proven inefficient, African countries have increasingly placed emphasis on private sector FSDS. Such systems have demonstrated their ability to adapt to changing urban food demands and to induce, when properly functioning, changes in farm production systems.

FSDS are, however, complex systems, the efficiency of which is affected by many factors. Policy makers must recognize that FSDS need to be:

"... provided with an appropriate legislative and regulatory framework, adequate and well-managed market infrastructure, trans-



Map 2: Accra and its Metropolis in 1953.

Areas such as Achimota, Cantonments and West of Korle Buo (sub-urban areas in 1943) are part of urban Accra.

port facilities, credit facilities, market information, investment incentives and skills." (Argenti, 1998).

Well functioning FSDS require the intervention of both public and private sectors. This is because private food marketing activities must take place within agreed rules and regulations while market infrastructure and services must respond to the needs of all market agents. Private investments in food marketing activities, if they are forthcoming, require a stable political and economic environment.

The public sector, be it central or local, needs to assist private market agents in overcoming daily constraints and to effectively plan ahead. This requires, on the part of the public decision makers and planners:

"An overall understanding of the way FSDS operate is essential, for, in the present context, any isolated intervention in one market can upset the workings of markets linked to it and cancel out any anticipated advantages." (Wilhelm, 1997).

It also requires an effective and constructive dialogue between the public and the private sector.

An important aspect of FSDS is its informal component. Informal food marketing activities are particularly important because they are the means through which the poorer consumers have access to low-cost food. They also generate employment and thus revenues. Yet informal traders are often discriminated against. They are denied access to market infrastructure facilities and services and subject to police harassment. The role of the informal food sector in enhancing the food security of urban populations must be recognised and their activities supported.

A.3 Sources of food supplies to Accra and its Metropolis

A.3.1 Tubers

The most important tubers consumed in the Accra Metropolis are yam, cassava and cocoyam.

Yam is mostly produced in the Brong Ahafo and Northern Region and, to a limited extent, in the northern fringes of the Volta Region. Cassava and cocoyam are also very important tubers. They come largely from the Brong Ahafo, Ashanti, Eastern and Western Regions.

A.3.2 Cereals and Legumes

Maize is the most important staple in the Accra Metropolis. While there is some limited local production, the bulk of production comes from the Brong Ahafo Region, the Northern Region, the Ashanti Region and the Western Region. Some food imports occasionally take place, in times of shortfall.

Rice is produced in the Upper, Northern and Volta Region. Irrigation schemes close to Accra (Kpong) also serve as important sources of local rice to the Accra Metropolis. Millets and sorghum are produced in the three northern regions. The main legumes are groundnuts, cowpea and Bambara beans. They are produced in the three northern regions (Upper West, Upper East and the Northern Region).

A.3.3 Others food products

Plantain and fruits such as bananas and oranges originate from the Ashanti, Eastern and Western regions.

Tomatoes come from the Upper east of Ghana (over 900 km away) and the Brong Ahafo region. Most onions come from Niger and Mali though some originate from the Upper East regions and peri-urban vegetable gardens of Accra. Groundnuts oils and Shea Butter oil are produced in the three northern regions, while Copra oil and palm oil originate from the Ashanti and Western regions.

A.4 Marketing Channels

Marketing channels are usually short for peri-urban production. They become more complex, and therefore more costly, the longer the distance of food supply areas from Accra.

Peri-urban agriculture in the Accra area mainly involves perishable products such as fish, poultry, milk products, maize, vegetables and fruits. Farm produce from peri-urban sources is sold by producers or by their wives directly to consumers or through small traders.

Road or rail transports food products produced within 100 km of Accra. Private transport plays an essential role. The Ghana Private Transport Union (GPRTU), a transport co-operative, handles the bulk of produce. Transportation is an important cost factor in the marketing of food consumed in the Accra Metropolis. Rail transport costs are lower than road transport and this has favoured the development of spontaneous markets near rail stations. Such markets operate according to train arrivals and departures.

The long-distance channels have itinerant traders as the main operators. They also deal with meat on the hoof, smoked fish, grain, onions and tubers. A long-distance food-marketing channel can be portrayed as follows:



Itinerant traders control much of the operations along the longer market channels. They establish, in some cases, agreements with producers on which basis they share production risks by pre-financing agricultural production. These agreements are often criticised for generating non-remunerative returns to producers, but are justified by traders on the basis of the risks they bear and the high cost of capital from formal institutions.

A.5 Food traders

The most vocal traders are the members, mainly women, of traders associations often headed by a Market Queen. They are organised and powerful and take on wholesale and retail activities. They usually have networks of small retailers who also depend upon them for social and family support.

Small retailers, in turn, rely upon hawkers for food sales within and between markets to small-scale agro-processors, millers, and sellers of pre-cooked foods and consumers.

A.6 Urban market infrastructure

There are 47 market sites in Accra. The majority of them are day markets (except for Sundays) with most business concluded by 6.00 p.m. Five are night markets and eight are specialised in the marketing of food. Other markets operate on specific weekdays. For example: the Mamprobi Market takes place on Tuesdays. Most of the recent markets have developed spontaneously, near rail stations or in new residential areas (see map 3).

Much of the land between the airport and Accra is now residential. There is no market site east of Nungua until one reaches Tema, in spite of the almost total build up of residential accommodation in that vast area stretching over 20 km parallel to the coast. According to Nyanteng (1998), the original layout of the residential areas in the Accra Metropolis included sites for markets, which have been used for residential buildings.

The failure to provide functional market areas means food marketing activities take place in the old city, in spite of its limited space for traffic, lorry parking, access points, banking and wholesale facilities. The spillage of traders and hawkers onto roads close to markets and at all traffic lights all over the Metropolis is a manifestation of planning failures.

While there is no specialised food wholesale market in Accra (de Lardemelle, 1996), in the area under AMA jurisdiction, there are four markets that are predominantly wholesale:

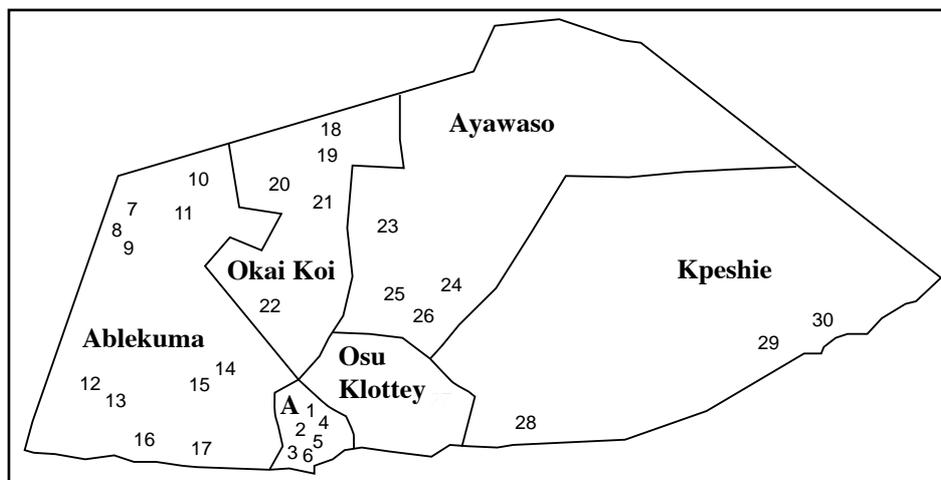
- the Yam market at Fadama;
- the Makola market (tomatoes and vegetables);
- the Kaneshie market (maize and cassava);
- the Mamprobi market (maize and smoked fish).

In sixteen other urban markets some wholesale activities take place with a degree of commodity specialisation (for example: maize).

In areas such as Bimbila, Zabzugu, Ejura and Techiman where arable production is concentrated, wholesale operations take place in the local assembly markets. These markets lack appropriate facilities: parking areas, loading and unload-

ing bays, storage facilities, etc. Scales are hardly ever used.

Retail activities take place in all markets. According to de Lardemelle (1996) there were 43 retail markets in Accra in 1996. The Ministry of Food and Agriculture (MAE) estimates that food retailing turnover is around Cedis 3.9 millions or US\$ 1.0 million per annum.



Map 3: Distribution of market sites in the AMA Sub-Districts
Source: adapted from Nyanteng (1988)

Legend

Ashiedu Keteke (A on map)

- 1. James Town Market
- 2. Agbogbloshie Market
- 3. Kantanmanto Market
- 4. Adabraka Market
- 5. Ussher Town Market
- 6. Accra Central Market

Ablekuma

- 7. Odorkor Market
- 8. New Generation Market
- 9. Sabon Zongo Market
- 10. Kwashieman Market
- 11. Darkuman Market
- 12. Sukura Market
- 13. Malam Junction Market
- 14. Lartebikorshie Market
- 15. Korle Gonno Market
- 16. Dansoman Market
- 17. Mamprobi Market

Okai Koi

- 18. Achimota Market
- 19. Ashiawo Market
- 20. Abeka Market
- 21. Kantanmanto Market
- 22. Kaneshie Market

Ayawaso

- 23. Alajo Market
- 24. Mamobi Market
- 25. Malata (New Town) Market
- 26. Nima Market

Osu Klottey

- 27. Christianborg Market

Kpeshie

- 28. La Market
- 29. Teshie Market
- 30. Nungua Market

Section B

SUMMARY OF WORKSHOP CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Workshop participants identified a number of issues of major concern concerning the supply and distribution of food to Accra and its Metropolis. They are summarised below.

B.1 Making food storage, processing and marketing channels more efficient and dynamic

- Marketing channels supplying Accra consumers with food are long and complex. Furthermore, there are multiple levies imposed by all local authorities (LAs) along the distribution chain. Additionally, the delays to inspect goods at barriers set up by LAs in their respective districts further intensify spoilage. This situation contributes to higher physical losses during transit and food quality deterioration, which result in higher food prices in Accra. Concerned LAs should analyse this situation and co-operate to facilitate the smooth flow of food to Accra.
- Market Queens are often criticised for food price manipulation and for creating artificial food shortages, which they do, for example, by preventing food trucks from entering Accra markets. Market Queens explain this as an attempt to minimise traffic congestion.

The workshop participants recommended the creation of 'Sunday' markets to allow food producers and "non-collusive traders" to sell directly to consumers. Such arrangement would increase competition. The LAs should implement this recommendation.

- Food storage facilities are insufficient in both rural and urban markets. With foodstuff exposed to the vagaries of weather and pests, post-harvest losses increase.

The Ghana Food Distribution Corporation (GFDC) owns silos in rural and urban centres with capacity available for rent to traders and farmers. However, it seems that insufficient publicity has been given to this opportunity. Farmer associations should be encouraged to

make use of storage facilities. LAs and the GFDC can liaise to promote such facilities.

- While processing can improve storability and shelf life of produce, urban consumers do not have a preference for locally processed foods. This is because of suspected adulteration by both food processors and market traders. The LAs should liaise with the Public Health Department and the GSB to research into this area and to prescribe appropriate sanctions. Appropriate standards and recommended safety packaging would enhance public confidence.
- In Ghana, the main barrier to entry into food marketing is lack of finance. Traders tend to raise their own capital and recurrent financing usually starting from a very limited scope and expanding gradually over time and across commodity types. Their expenditures relate mainly to acquisition of market space, vessels for storage and portage and inventory cash. Small-scale traders and hawkers do not access and utilise formal banking credit. Transport owners and large-scale itinerant traders however do use these even though the workshop did not elicit levels of such credit within the Accra Metropolis. They hardly contribute to investment in market infrastructure.

B.2 Adapting urban market infrastructure and facilities to meet the food needs of the year 2020

- Among the many problems identified under this heading, the most important one was traffic congestion around markets caused by encroaching hawkers and by the renting of parking spaces as sale spaces by LAs aiming to maximise toll revenues. An immediate possible action is the enforcement of existing legislation on hawking and unlawful parking. The LAs ought to reappraise their market plans to avoid the irresponsible proliferation of stalls over every available space at existing market sites.
- The insufficiency of urban market places is, too, a cause of food trading activities taking place in the street, which increases traffic congestion. LAs and the private sector should develop joint market development schemes on a profit sharing basis.
- Markets are frequently burnt down, mostly because of faulty electrical systems. Such fires have disastrous economic consequences for

human lives, goods and properties. The AMA and the Electricity Corporation of Ghana (ECG) should set up a task force to rapidly inspect and repair electrical installations in urban markets. Where electrical systems were privately installed, repair costs should be borne by stall owners. Thereafter, a series of "surprise" checks should be carried out and heavy penalties imposed for violations of safety regulations.

- Most urban markets are insecure both for products and persons. The LAs should set up perimeter walls, fencing, lighting systems and police posts at market sites in urban centres.
- Many markets in Accra suffer from poor drainage and sanitation. Unpaved floors and blocked drains as well as lorry park congestion all lead to wet and unsanitary market places. The need to tar or use cemented flooring is essential. So is the need for opening up drains and sewage disposal vents. The free flow of traffic at stations if these are tarred and not potholed will mean faster entry and exits of vehicles and a potential for decongestion. Again, LAs were seen as the main vehicle to undertake these improvements, in consultation with Market Trader Associations and the Transport Unions. Representatives of these bodies expressed their willingness to support any special levies dedicated to these forms of developments. They did express the caveat though that contractual tenders to LAs were often exaggerated and that if their monies will go into these forms of co-operation then they will like to be a part of the tender committees to ensure that their monies were efficiently used.
- With respect to market cleaning, subcontracting was considered a more effective alternative to LAs' direct involvement.

B.3 Improving market planning, management, rules and regulations

- Market facilities are generally inadequate throughout the urban areas, and clearly absent in new residential areas.

Old markets at strategic sites within Accra should be rehabilitated. The use of satellite markets including bulk-breaking sites at railheads should be improved and developed. New markets and market site displacements should be undertaken if feasible and in partnerships between the LAs and private sector.

Sunday markets, or such other periodic markets, were seen as a way forward to ease congestion at town centre markets. The LAs should take the lead in their development.

- The AMA is responsible for market management, but the quality of such management is generally inadequate. Market regulations are hardly ever respected. Because of inflation in recent years, sanctions no longer represent a deterrent. Market Management Boards should be established and strengthened by joint L.A./private sector management committees for new markets. Some joint market ventures have recently been undertaken by the AMA, Trader Associations and private businesses to build and manage markets.
- Existing by-laws ruling the operations of markets are outdated. For instance, currency depreciation has deprived financial penalties, set in the 1960s, of their punitive value. LAs should therefore promote a revision of present legislation and regulations.
- Market operators have established their own rules, which are often at variance with official laws and regulations. This situation is a source of possible conflict and should be eliminated. Present conflicts should be addressed and settled. Existing "unofficial" rules should be seriously examined by LAs and endorsed if considered appropriate. Official rules and regulations should then be made known to all market users and their observance adequately enforced.
- One reason for the poor participation of the private sector in the construction, control, and management of markets in Ghana was the issue of market ownership. Current legislation limits private investments in market infrastructure and should be reviewed.
- Different LAs charge different levies on the movement of food and agricultural produce. Such plurality of levies is unlikely to be known by traders and transporters. This generates conflicts often leading to peace-breaching disputes in markets between traders and local public officers. It is important that LAs harmonise their levies and ensure adequate supervision of their implementation so as to prevent unlawful practices. This is a field requiring effective collaboration among LAs.

B.4 Improving market information and promoting grading and standards

- Market information (availability of supplies, prices, road conditions and locational transfer costs) plays an essential role in dynamising marketing activities. The itinerant trader is usually the main source of market information.

Lack of market information may help explain wide food price fluctuations and could also contribute to higher marketing costs. The MFA should consider improving its agricultural Market Information Service in close collaboration with the Ministry of Commerce and private sector organisations.

- Grading and standards are absent in Ghana. Scales also are unused on markets: tins, bowls and sacks being the most popular measuring instruments. This situation prevents agricultural producers from obtaining better prices for their products and exposes consumers to higher food prices resulting from incorrect weighing practices.

Institutions like the GSB, MFA, Farmer and Trader Associations, Food Research Institute, Atomic Agency Commission of Ghana should co-ordinate to develop criteria for grades and standards. Subsequently, these should be made the subject of an information campaign in which LAs should be actively involved to educate the public on grading and the use of weights and measures.

B.5 Role, constraints and performance of women food traders and youth employment in food marketing

- The work of female food traders is hampered by a general lack of capital. LAs could sensitise financial institutions to set up banking operation halls within markets and to attend the needs of market women in terms of loans and banking facilities (for example, late-evening banking).
- The fact that women traders are also mothers and, sometimes, nursing mothers, means that they need to work within a healthy environment. Thus specific market facilities are required: toilets and washrooms, resting places, first aid centres and shade.

Section C
WORK GROUP RECOMMENDATIONS

C1 - Improving the efficiency and dynamism of marketing channels, storage and processing

PROBLEMS	CONSEQUENCES	ACTIONS	RESPONSIBILITY
<p><u>Marketing channels, transport and levies</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Market Channels are long and complex; ▪ Producers are not well organised ; ▪ Transport difficulties & bad roads; ▪ Lack of appropriate packaging for the bulk transportation of perishables; ▪ Trade restrictions imposed by commodity trade associations; ▪ High charges for produce loading and unloading; ▪ Multiple tariffs charged on goods by L.A.s at loading points both at production area and at market centres. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Lower quality, product spoilage and higher post-harvest losses, particularly for perishable products; ▪ Loss through pilfering and deterioration; ▪ Artificial food shortages and higher prices; ▪ Low producer returns. Lower production incentives. Farmers are compelled to sell at unfavourable prices; ▪ Difficulty with accessing production areas. ▪ Higher prices to consumers; ▪ Transport costs increase consumer prices; ▪ Handling difficulties (loading/unloading) and additional costs to food prices. ▪ Delays in transportation from farm to assembly centers entail loss of produce quality. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Farmer Associations should be assisted to be more effective at grassroots level to help their members market their produce; ▪ Develop marketing extension services; ▪ Creation of special markets for producers in urban centres for producers and other traders who are not affiliated with market associations; ▪ Enactment of bye-laws to regulate activities of ‘Market Queens’; ▪ Specially designed vehicles to be purchased to move food from producing areas to consumer centres; ▪ Police and L.A.s to work together to reduce the multiplicity of barriers on food routes; ▪ Appropriate packaging should be facilitated at the rural market level, especially for perishables. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ District Assemblies (Dept. of Agriculture); ▪ NGOs; ▪ Banks; ▪ District Assembly; ▪ Private Sector ; ▪ District Assembly; ▪ Police; ▪ Customs; ▪ Research Institutes; ▪ Ghana Standards Board (G.S.B.).

PROBLEMS	CONSEQUENCES	ACTIONS	RESPONSIBILITY
<p><u>Storage</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Food storage facilities. Are lacking in both urban and rural areas; ▪ Inadequate storage methods (e.g. cassava is still stored in barrels containing water); ▪ Poor market design allowing limited market space. District Assemblies do not appreciate the need for space; ▪ Financial constraints. <p><u>Processing</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ High initial investment; ▪ Lack of technical know-how; ▪ Inadequate packaging e.g. lack of local packaging material; ▪ Inadequate raw material base. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Sometimes commodities are sold at a loss e.g. perishables; ▪ High incidence of food spoilage and losses; ▪ Product pilfering and stealing; ▪ Loss in quality of product. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Keeps prospective food processing entrepreneurs out (lower employment); ▪ Poor quality products; ▪ Low patronage of goods with /unattractive packaging; ▪ Factories close down. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Proper storage facilities should be provided at all levels; ▪ Farmers and traders should be given training in storage skills; ▪ Market designs should include storage facilities; ▪ Policy makers should be informed about the importance of appropriate storage and food processing techniques and requirements; ▪ Credit lines should be developed for the establishment, by both the public and private sectors, of storage facilities and the necessary equipment. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Technical and managerial training should be provided to prospective processors; ▪ Develop local packaging material industries e.g. Glass, tin, aluminium, plastic; ▪ Establish plantations; ▪ Promote medium and small processing enterprises; ▪ Provide credit for food processing activities. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Farmers; ▪ District Assemblies; ▪ MFA Extension Agents; ▪ Market Women; ▪ District Assemblies (Agriculture Dept.); ▪ F.R.I.; ▪ Universities; ▪ MDPI, GIMPA; ▪ Financial Institutions; ▪ NGOs. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ F.R.I. ; ▪ Polytechnics and Universities; ▪ Financial Institutions; ▪ District Assemblies; ▪ NBSSI; ▪ NGOs.

C2 - Adapting Market Infrastructure to meet the food needs of the year 2020

PROBLEMS	CONSEQUENCES	ACTIONS	RESPONSIBILITY
<p><u>Poor access roads and lorry parks in urban areas</u></p>	<p>Traffic congestion leading to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Consumers discouraged by fuel and traffic costs, muddy roads, delays; ▪ High haulage costs; ▪ Produce spoilage from traffic delays; ▪ Farmers bringing produce are reluctant to reach inaccessible markets; ▪ Vehicle owners reluctant to use bad and congested roads; ▪ Delays to emergency response; ▪ Waste collection and disposal impaired; ▪ Proliferation of hawkers; ▪ Vehicular/pedestrian conflicts. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Road and Lorry Parks need Resurfacing (gravelling/tarring); ▪ Widening of narrow roads; ▪ Creation of Lay-Byes or One Way street systems; ▪ Encourage the establishment of private parking lots; ▪ Enforcement of Legislation on street parking/hawking. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Urban/Metro roads Departments; ▪ AMA/Town & Country Planning/Urban Roads; ▪ AMA/Private Sector.
<p><u>Inadequate or unavailable facilities</u> (Clinics, day care centres, toilets & conveniences)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ High risk to lives (emergency situations face a long trip to the Hospital); ▪ Loss of business due to long trips to nearest health centers and hospitals; ▪ Divided attention to children during sales by traders; ▪ Loss of early learning opportunity for children of traders; ▪ Health risks; ▪ Environmental fouling; ▪ Loss of revenue through low patronage due to unsightly and unhealthy surroundings. 	<p>Provide space and sensitise private sector to construct and manage clinics, day centres, toilets and baths in the markets.</p>	<p>Joint AMA and Private Sector.</p>

PROBLEMS	CONSEQUENCES	ACTIONS	RESPONSIBILITY
<u>Electricity shortages</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Antiquated wiring systems leading to rampant fire; ▪ Unqualified and unregistered electricians employed to install private services leading to fire risk to life and property; ▪ Overloading of system leading to blackout transformer damages; ▪ Limited range of business operations; ▪ Insecurity and limited Night trade where no lighting ▪ Discomfort in overcrowded stalls where no electricity for fans to be used; ▪ Over heated stalls and storage facilities also damaged goods and reduce their value. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Rewiring of all old markets; ▪ Extension of mains to market sites by ECG and installation regulated to only qualified and ECG approved electricians; ▪ Insurance and re insurance of market/properties at market; ▪ Provision of security floodlights. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ AMA; ▪ ECG /AMA; ▪ AMA/Private Insurance Companies; ▪ AMA/ Market Companies.
<u>Non existent or inadequate storage facilities</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Improper produce handling; ▪ Spoilage; ▪ Limited range and volume of trade items; ▪ Food contamination and associated risk to health of consumers. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Land must be earmarked for market extension particularly for storage and warehousing facilities; ▪ Rehabilitation and/or construction of storage facilities; ▪ Decongestion of existing markets (Research needed); ▪ Rehabilitation of existing markets with poor facilities and low patronage (e.g. London market); ▪ Voluntary relocation to new markets; ▪ Penalties and enforcement of hawking regulations; ▪ Development of satellite markets and reduced rent charges there as an inducement to facilitate relocation. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ AMA/Town & Country Planning; ▪ AMA/Market Companies.

PROBLEMS	CONSEQUENCES	ACTIONS	RESPONSIBILITY
<p><u>Security</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Problem of incomplete land acquisition by AMA/Market Companies; ▪ Perimeter walls and fences limited. Where available, only one outer gate usually; ▪ Lighting systems non-existent; ▪ Personal and physical insecurity. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Leads to encroachment and harassment by landlords; • Without a wall, people encroach on markets; • Theft is rampant; • Loss of revenue to traders; • Single access/exit gate is risk to lives under any emergency; • Policing is made more difficult. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Legal acquisition of lands must be complete; ▪ Perimeter wall and fences with floodlights can reduce crimes committed under cover of darkness; ▪ Police post discourages petty crime and discourages victims of crime taking law into their own hands; ▪ More Access/Exit needed. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ AMA; ▪ AMA/Private Market Companies; ▪ Police/AMA.
<p><u>Spontaneous Markets</u></p> <p>Lack of market infrastructure. Security measures are needed to keep people, especially children, from the rails.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Health and safety risks are high; ▪ Loss of income to L.A.s if no orders and tolls not collected. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Should serve as important foci for immediate market development sites; ▪ Immediate survey and research of support needed; ▪ Additional road transport and parking lot needed; Need level be based on research. ▪ Immediate safety measures (rail guard fences) needed. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ AMA; ▪ Private Market Companies; ▪ Ghana Railways Authority.

PROBLEMS	CONSEQUENCES	ACTIONS	RESPONSIBILITY
<p><u>Poor drainage, sanitation & food hygiene facilities</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Facilities lacking; ▪ Poor supervision of quality standards. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Unpaved floors means some produce must lie on bare ground often muddied after rains; ▪ Unavailable, choked or open drains leave much potential for flooding; ▪ Produce contamination can result and food hygiene brought into question. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Tar and pave market access walk ways and market floors; ▪ Positive commitment by market operators (e.g. GPRTU/market associations) to bear some costs be researched; ▪ Note must be taken of concern by market operators against irresponsible contract payments made from monies raised for special infrastructure projects. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ AMA; ▪ Market Operators (e.g. Transport Unions, Trader Associations); ▪ AMA, SFO.
<p><u>Night Markets</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Floodlights insufficient or non-existent in night markets of Accra Metropolitan Area; ▪ Most night markets have muddy unhygienic grounds; ▪ Night market traders hire own security (watchmen) or sleep in their stalls because of insecurity; ▪ Perimeter fences lacking; ▪ Hazardous health and fire practices (e.g. open flame lanterns, soot smoke) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Lack of floodlights causes a risk to personal safety for traders; ▪ Cash from sales at risk of robbers and thieves; ▪ Lack of perimeter fence affords thieves good escape; ▪ Open flame lanterns are a serious fire risk to people & property; ▪ Open flame smoke and soot pose serious health risks to buyers & sellers and pollute the environment with green house gases; ▪ No perimeter encourages hawking, which gives rise to vehicular / pedestrian conflict. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Provision of floodlights and better general electrical facilities; ▪ Provision of perimeter walls at night markets; ▪ Enforcement of regulations for minimising fire and health risks. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ AMA; ▪ ECG; ▪ Private Market Operators.

PROBLEMS	CONSEQUENCES	ACTIONS	RESPONSIBILITY
<p><u>Open Air Markets</u></p> <p>Poor development of sheds, lorry parks perimeter fencing, warehousing and wholesale storage facilities</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Since there may be barriers to direct entry of producers to main markets centres, open-air markets offer a good opportunity for direct earnings to farmers and their wives who bring their produce directly to Accra. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • They should be better facilitated to yield toll incomes to AMA; • Assess the potential of open-air markets as future market centres. 	<p>AMA.</p>

C3 - Improving market planning, management, rules and regulations to meet the food needs of the year 2020

PROBLEMS	CONSEQUENCES	ACTIONS	RESPONSIBILITY
<p><u>Market planning:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Physical market structures and facilities are old; ▪ Myopic planning that leaves no room for future expansion and development of markets; ▪ Old markets are engulfed in built up areas and inaccessible to big haulage trucks; ▪ Most new emerging settlement areas lack markets; ▪ Frequent change of leadership (Mayors); ▪ Inadequate planning skills; ▪ Decentralising authority to different L.A.s has meant excessive local tax charges along entire trade network into city. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Congested with poor sanitary facilities; ▪ Financial constraints by the Assembly (AMA) affects proper market maintenance and new market development; ▪ Laws governing markets development to be made flexible to enable private participation in the building operation and indeed ownership of markets; ▪ Leadership changes obstruct continuity of projects ▪ Specialised supervisory skills deficient (e.g. Architects, engineers, technicians); ▪ A vehicle can pay tolls at over ten checkpoints moving from Paga in Upper east to Accra in the South. This adds to food costs in Accra. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The old markets may have to be rehabilitated and modernised where feasible (as is being done at Osu Market, and Tuesday Market); ▪ Satellite markets to be established especially at new emerging areas (e.g. Nii Boiman Market); ▪ These new markets should be developed with long term perspectives; ▪ To ensure continuity of markets projects new leadership should adhere to plans and programmes once initiated; ▪ AMA must pay adequate attention to Recruitment Selection to ensure competence in staff engaged; ▪ Capacity building: on the job staff skills development; ▪ Levies on foodstuffs in transit must be abolished to avoid double taxation and high market prices. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ AMA; ▪ Private Market Operators; ▪ Limited Liability Companies or institutions through the Stock Exchange could buy or float shares to develop markets; ▪ AMA to liase with other Mayors to settle this anomaly.

PROBLEMS	CONSEQUENCES	ACTIONS	RESPONSIBILITY
<p><u>Market management</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Management Boards non-existent ▪ AMA's Treasury Department only concerned with collecting fees, tolls and levies. No reinvestment in maintenance. ▪ Outmoded Management Rules, bylaws toll levels. ▪ Market Associations have laws of association by which they abide ▪ Low Revenue Mobilisation capacity by AMA ▪ Occasional conflict on borders between different L.A.s 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Treasury not performing other management functions as <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Provision of facilities and services; ▪ Provision of security; ▪ Rehabilitation and maintenance of facilities; ▪ Market planning and development; ▪ Enforcement of rules and regulations. ▪ Sanctions now not punitive enough, nominal levies eroded by devaluations and inflation now meaningless. ▪ Some of these may be in conflict with AMA rules. ▪ Puts limit on developments that can be effected. ▪ Detracts management concentration and results in loss of revenue. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Market Management Boards will have to be established to manage markets-stockholders or some beneficiaries may need to be included; ▪ Private management of the markets is to be considered. ▪ Bylaws and rules should be reviewed and made relevant to current day economic conditions. ▪ Local arrangements or rules by market associations to be made known to the AMA. ▪ To augment the financial position of the Assemblies, the Central Government may need to remit to the Assemblies all rates due such as property rates on Ministry buildings, Government Departments and Agencies. ▪ Political boundaries of districts need be demarcated by the State to avoid conflicts (e.g. AMA vs. Ga District). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ AMA

C4 - Improving market information and promoting grading and standardisation

PROBLEMS	CONSEQUENCES	ACTIONS	RESPONSIBILITY
<p><u>Market Information</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Inadequate information for needs of traders, farmers and consumers; ▪ Seasonality of production; ▪ Inadequate understanding of the marketing systems by public servants; ▪ Poor intra - Accra market information; ▪ Limited information flow from the district due to inadequate detailed knowledge of the market mechanism; ▪ Ineffective policy intervention. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Gives rise to price fluctuations; ▪ Lack of information leads to glut/movement of traders/control by traders of certain commodities; ▪ Inefficiencies all round; ▪ Costly errors in marketing decisions by operators resulting in more costs passed to customers; ▪ Translates into inadequate information at the national level leading to poor monitoring of food situation and advising thereupon; ▪ Wrong signals to agricultural producers and food marketing operators, failed interventions, and general food insecurity especially in cities. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Can be improved through the use of extension agents; ▪ Improved mobility of extension & other public services should be considered; ▪ Motivation for extension agents and other public servants needed; ▪ There must be a follow-up by AMA to have an in-depth knowledge of the culture of market; ▪ FM stations to provide market information in local dialects; ▪ Market place Public Address Systems should be installed and prices and other messages passed to traders and customers; ▪ Establishment of information gathering, processing and dissemination mechanisms at the district levels; ▪ In-depth studies ought to be conducted on all aspects of the marketing systems; ▪ High calibre consultants' work is required with contract tied up with effectiveness of recommendations. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ MoFA; ▪ District Chief Executives (DCEs); ▪ MoFA; ▪ FM Stations; ▪ Private Market Operators; ▪ Market Associations; ▪ AMA; ▪ Other L.A.s.

PROBLEMS	CONSEQUENCES	ACTIONS	RESPONSIBILITY
<p><u>Grades & Standards</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ No formal systems of grading and standardisation in the markets for all agricultural commodities; ▪ Metrication Law of 1974 into force but unused, no grading criteria known to be in force. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Farmers do not get premium price for their produce; ▪ Subjective appraisal product quality; ▪ Popular containers such as 'Milo' tins used for measurement; ▪ Difficulty in effective conduct of transaction in cross-broader trade; ▪ Limitations on formal cross-broader trade within the ECOWAS Sub-Region. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Develop grading criteria for the various agricultural commodities; ▪ Educate farmers, traders, and consumers on need and practice of grading in local languages; ▪ Enforce use of measures; ▪ Institute educational campaign involving market associations; ▪ Re-introduce compulsory use of measuring scales and other measures with government support in financing scales in the introductory phase; ▪ For effective implementation, there is a need for the development of grading criteria for the various commodities offered. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Ghana Standard Board (GSB) in collaboration with various stakeholders; ▪ AMA, MFA, ISD, GSB and Market Associations to liase on enforcement of the 1974; ▪ Metrication Law; ▪ MoT; ▪ GSB; ▪ Legislature; ▪ L.A.s; ▪ Market Associations; ▪ Ghana Exports Promotion Council (GEPC).

C5 - Role, constraints and performance of women food traders and youth employment in food marketing

PROBLEMS	CONSEQUENCES	ACTIONS	RESPONSIBILITY
<p><u>Inadequate market facilities</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Market operators excluded from planning decisions; ▪ Tradeswomen were not involved in the decision making about markets; ▪ Lack of telecommunication and loudspeakers; ▪ Hostel facilities for visiting traders (that arrive after market hours). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Washing and toilet facilities either not available or if present, not gender sensitive; ▪ Special facilities not provided for butchers and fish mongers in their shops; ▪ Size of stores limited; ▪ Proper unloading and loading sites not accessible for vehicles both of traders and customers; ▪ Walk ways not paved and storeys not functional; ▪ Not enough warehouses, clinics, Day-care centres/crèches in market areas; ▪ Meeting rooms for market associations not included in market plans and therefore not available even at some new market sites; ▪ Telecommunication facilities and public address systems not provided in markets; ▪ Affordable hostel facilities for itinerant traders who may usually arrive with wares late into the night. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Involve tradeswomen in decision making and planning and ensure plan designers meet with market operator associations or representatives of all interest groups; ▪ Survey of needs adequately at preplanning stage ensuring commodity specific needs are met (e.g. butcher shops with sanitary facilities and cold stores); ▪ Post design consultations must be held with interest groups and feedback on completed model incorporated in final design work. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ MoF ▪ AMA

PROBLEMS	CONSEQUENCES	ACTIONS	RESPONSIBILITY
<p><u>Congestion in markets</u></p> <p><u>Unhygienic conditions</u></p> <p>Lack of toilets, running water, dust bins and waste disposal sites around markets.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The result of misuse of pavements as sites for displaying wares; ▪ Congestion facilitates theft; ▪ Danger to health and safety of market operators; ▪ Given crowded situations high potential for epidemic outbreaks. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Danger to health and safety of market operators; ▪ Given crowded situations high potential for epidemic outbreaks. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Educate traders not to misuse pavements; ▪ Punitive sanctions must be set and enforced to discourage abuse; ▪ Relocation of established traders should be well planned to avoid loss of regular customers to fragile businesses, or to create unemployment in the previous market; ▪ Security people to enforce no hawking outside old market area; ▪ Creation of dedicated street markets should bring hawkers to a focal point. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Waste bins should be made availability and active educational campaign on proper use; ▪ Privatised cleaning of market; ▪ Set up disciplinary committee on hygiene made up of Health inspectors, market women and AMA; ▪ Educational campaigns targeted at traders, Market Queens and their Associations, and customers. Through radio, posters, public address systems, mobile video and cinema shows, advertisements at theatres, ...; ▪ Comprehensive training for public health field workers. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ AMA; ▪ Market Associations; ▪ ISD; ▪ Police. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ AMA; ▪ ISD; ▪ MoH.

PROBLEMS	CONSEQUENCES	ACTIONS	RESPONSIBILITY
<u>Security lacking at Markets</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Rampant theft; ▪ Market women have to hire private security guards (Watchmen) and costs are passed onto costs of wares making food expensive; ▪ Market women and teenage traders not feeling secure and subject to molestation by junkies and drunks. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Markets should be adapted to have perimeter walls/fences, central gates which get locked and opened only at set times and hostel facilities for itinerant traders to prevent in market sleeping practices; ▪ Insurance against loss fire and theft should be facilitated and again an intensive educational campaign instituted to support its introduction. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ AMA; ▪ Private Market Operators; ▪ Insurance companies; ▪ Police.
<u>Banking Facilities Deficient</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Deficient Banking facilities means traders are not getting educated on the use of banks; ▪ Limits savings mobilisation and the development of greater sophistication in business; ▪ Limits opportunity for international trade by local traders; ▪ Market operators find it hard to leave uncovered wares for prolonged periods. Their banking facilities need therefore be very close by. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Banking facilities must be built into market places and made available to formal credit institutions for hire or purchase; ▪ Educational campaigns to introduce traders some of whom may be illiterate to the modalities and advantages of modern banking in an easy to understand fashion. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ AMA; ▪ Private Market Operators; ▪ Formal Financial Institutions (FFIs).

PROBLEMS	CONSEQUENCES	ACTIONS	RESPONSIBILITY
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Low Capitalisation of Local trade ▪ Banking facilities simply too far from market centres within the AMA area. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Opportunities for expansion, patronage of sophisticated safety nets in business (e.g. insurance) are limited; ▪ Not being close, banks do not know the special needs of market operators. For example, rent on new premises may often be higher because of needed deposits. Banks can assist there with suitable loans and low instalment repayment schedules within their operational budgets. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Investigate mobile banking for traders - market women; ▪ Include traders in target group of business assistance funds; ▪ encourage to operate bank accounts in order to be able to attract loans - banks and women; ▪ Facilitate formalisation of Traditional ‘SuSu’¹ into Credit Associations and Unions; ▪ Credit facilities for market women in order to meet their special needs (e.g. help them pay new expensive facilities at new market sites). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ FFIs; ▪ AMA; ▪ BoG; ▪ Government and AMA to liase with private sector and financial institutions to institute facilities of relevance.

¹ SuSu Circle of contributors who collect the gathered sum in turns.

PROBLEMS	CONSEQUENCES	ACTIONS	RESPONSIBILITY
<p><u>Modern Trade Practices Deficient</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Very low practice of modern trade methods and record keeping. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Bookkeeping problems especially when customers buy on credit; ▪ Introduction of trade laws becomes expensive (e.g. low uptake of knowledge on VAT being delivered presently). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Education taking into account what market women already do and with special attention for selling on credit; ▪ Classes should take place in the market and in local languages; ▪ Recruit National service personnel for teaching on site; give them incentives to teach in the market; ▪ Training of facilitators among market women. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ AMA; ▪ National Service Secretariat; ▪ VAT Secretariat.

Annex 1

Food Supply and Distribution to Accra and its Metropolis AMA-FAO Workshop

AGENDA

April, 13 - 1998

Registration of Participants

Opening ceremony:

Introduction of Chairperson

Keynote address by Dr K. Adjei, Minister of Food and Agriculture
Address by Mr B.F. Dada, FAO Regional Representative for Africa

Papers:

Role, policy and constraints of the Central and Local Authorities
(Dr D. Sackey, Director of Food and Agriculture, AMA)
Role, needs, constraints and suggestions of the Traders
(Mr H. Agesheka, Secretary General, GAPTO)
Role, needs, constraints and suggestions of the Hauliers
(Mr C. Ankomah, General Secretary, GPRTU)
Food Supply and Distribution Systems to Accra and its Metropolis
(Prof. V.K.Nyanteng, ISSER)

Organization of work groups:

- 1 Improving the efficiency and dynamism of marketing channels, storage and processing
- 2 Adapting urban market infrastructure and facilities to meet the food needs of the year 2020
- 3 Improving market planning, management, rules and regulations
- 4 Improving market information and promoting grading and standardisation
- 5 Role, constraints and performance of women food traders and youth employment in food marketing

April, 14 - 1998

Discussion in work groups

April, 15 - 1998

Presentation of the synthesis prepared by each work group
Plenary discussion of the workshop preliminary conclusions and recommendations
Elaboration of final conclusions and recommendations
Adoption of workshop conclusions and recommendations

Closing ceremony:

Address by Olivio Argenti, Marketing Expert, FAO
Keynote address by Dr. Nat Nuno Amarteyfio, Mayor of Accra

Annex 2

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