

MEMO

FROM: WILLIAM BREW- SMITH, HEAD OF DEPARTMENT (SWCD)

TO: THE DIST. CHIEF EXECUTIVE/ DIST. COORDINATING DIR. (AMADA)

DATE: 1ST SEPTEMBER, 2022

**SUBJECT: SUBMISSION OF 2022 REPORT ON SKILL TRAINING FOR PERSONS
WITH DISABILITY.**

I submit the attached, 2022 Report on Skill Training Programme organised for Persons with Disability at Akim - Asuboa in the Asene Manso Akroso District for your further action please.

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WILLIAM K. BREW-SMITH
(HEAD OF DEPT., SW&CD)

REPORT ON SKILL TRAINING FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES AT

AKIM ASUBOA

Introduction

Persons with disabilities are mostly unemployed and find it difficult to enter into the labour market. One of the aims of the Asene Manso Akroso District Assembly is to cushion persons with disabilities with skills so as to move them into the mainstream development. In view of the above, skills training was organized for persons with disabilities in the District who expressed interest in skills training, specifically soap making. The aim was to empower participants with a practical skill that could potentially contribute to their economic independence and improve their overall quality of life. That is to enable them make their own soaps for personal use and most importantly serve as an income generating activity. The training covered various aspects of soap making, including theory, hands-on practice, and discussions on marketing and entrepreneurship.

The training was a collaboration between the District Assembly, the District Federation of Disabilities organizations and the District Business Advisory Centre funded by the allocation of the PWDs Fund allocated to the GFD for organizational support.

Objectives

1. To provide practical training in soap making to persons with disabilities.
2. To enhance participants' knowledge about the soap making process.
3. To equip participants with skills for producing quality soap products.
4. To encourage entrepreneurship and income generation among persons with disabilities.

Participants

The training workshop was attended by Seventeen (17) participants with various forms of disabilities from various communities within the Asene Manso Akroso District. Participants included individuals with different types of disabilities, reflecting the diverse nature of the District.

Summary of the Training

The training on soap making commenced on Wednesday, 11th August, 2022 in Asuboa with an open prayer by Mr. Jephath Adonten Appah, Head of Community Development Unit of the Department and welcomed all participants present to the programme. He further encouraged them to take the learning process serious. They were also welcomed by the Chairman of the DFMC, Hon. Alfred Nyarko Baiden, who admonished them to take the training serious since the skills obtained from the training would be of benefit to them.

The training was facilitated by the District Business Advisory Centre. The trainer took the participants through the various stages in preparing the various kind of soap such as liquid soap, round ball soap among others. The participants were introduced to the various ingredient needed for soap making such as bucket of water, perfume, thickener, colour, foam booster, salt, etc. The participants observed carefully the preparation process and after had the opportunity to ask questions.

Activities during the training

Stage 1: Introduction to Soap Making and Raw Materials

- The training began with an overview of soap making, explaining the basic concepts, benefits, and potential for income generation.
- Participants were introduced to the raw materials used in soap making, including different types of oils, lye, fragrance, and colourant.
- Safety precautions and proper handling of materials were emphasized.

Stage 2: Practical Soap Making Sessions

- Participants were divided into smaller groups for hands-on soap making sessions.
- Trainers demonstrated the step-by-step process of soap making, from measuring ingredients to mixing and molding.
- Participants actively participated in making various types of soap, such as ball soap, round soap.

Day 3: Marketing and Entrepreneurship

- A session focused on marketing strategies and entrepreneurship was conducted.
- Participants discussed packaging, branding, pricing, and ways to market their products effectively.
- The importance of networking and utilizing social media for promotion was highlighted.

During the questions time, some participants wanted to know where they could purchase the materials/ingredients for the soap making and were accordingly answered. The facilitators also informed the participants that, they are always ready to offer the needed support when the need arise. The total number of beneficiaries provided with skills training were thirty two.

Outcome and Impact:

- Participants gained practical skills and knowledge in soap making, enabling them to potentially generate income and become self-reliant.
- The training fostered a sense of empowerment and boosted the participants' confidence in their ability to engage in economic activities.
- Participants expressed enthusiasm about the possibility of starting small soap-making businesses.
- The training helped build a supportive network among persons with disabilities in the district.
- Their remarks further indicated that they are going to invest into what they have learnt so it will help in moving them out of poverty.

GFD president's remarks

The District Chairman of GFD, Obeng Asare thanked the facilitators, participants for attendance and their contributions to make the programme a success. He informed members that more of such training programmes will be offered periodically with stakeholders and asked members to avail themselves. He edged them to put skills acquired into good use for their own personal use or to sell to the public to make profit. The meeting was successfully brought to an end at 3.40 pm with a closing prayer by Mercy Acquah.

Recommendations:

- To ensure the sustainability of the training's impact, follow-up sessions or mentorship programs could be considered.
- Collaboration with local businesses or markets could facilitate the marketing and distribution of the soap products created by the participants.
- Similar vocational training programs could be organized in the future to expand the skill set of persons with disabilities in the district.

Conclusion

The soap making training workshop was successful in equipping persons with disabilities with practical skills and knowledge in soap production. The participants showed keen interest and enthusiasm throughout the training, and it is anticipated that the skills acquired will contribute to their economic empowerment and overall well-being. Such initiatives play a vital role in promoting inclusivity, self-sufficiency, and a sense of achievement among persons with disabilities.

Report compile by:

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PICTURES OF TRAINING EXERCISES OF BENEFICIARIES



