

IFAD CPE Workshop in Accra, Ghana

Proposed Itinerary for IFAD Head Quarters Staff

**Field Visit to Sites of Rural Enterprises Project and Root and Tuber Improvement and Marketing Programme
31st October 2011**

TIME	ACTIVITY	RESPON.
7.30 a.m.	Departure Accra	
7:30a.m. - 09:00 a.m.	Travel from Accra to Begoro	REP
9:40a.m. – 10:10 a.m.	Site 1: Meet with Leadership of District Assembly Meet with the District Chief Executive, District Coordinating Director, Micro and Small-Scale Enterprise Sub-Committee Chairperson and other Senior District Assembly staff on REP activities and implementation in the Fanteakwa District and the District Assembly's efforts to sustain the Project activities.	REP
10:10 a.m.– 10:40 a.m.	Travel from Begoro to Otuater	
10:40 a.m.– 11:10 a.m.	Site 2: Interact with soap makers ➤ The Gye-Nyame Soap Makers Group (18 members – 17 women/1 man) was formed in July, 2010 after a skills training in soap making facilitated by the Business Advisory Centre in collaboration with The Hunger Project (THP). The BAC has also organized trainings in group dynamics and leadership skills development, small business management, credit management for the members. The group participated in the REP 2011 Client's Exhibition and Trade Show and the 2011 Odwira festival at Begoro to showcase their products where they made good sales, created market linkages and learnt new technologies and skills. The group has rapidly expanded its operations and it is now one of the leading suppliers of soap in and outside the Fanteakwa district. It has provided jobs for 8 people who are not members of the group in the form of sales persons and retailers. According to Madam Salome Tetteh, a member of the group, the group has helped her establish her own soap making business from which she is able to support her husband to pay the school fees for their four (4) children in school. She said that she has been able to provide jobs to 7 women and has used part of her profit to buy fertilizers and other farm inputs to support her husband in the farm.	REP
11.10 a.m.– 12:50 p.m.	Travel from Otuater to Nankese	REP
12:50 p.m.– 1:40 p.m.	Site 3: Interact with Leadership of South Akim Rural Bank ➤ The South Akim Rural Bank (SARB) is one of the high performing rural banks in Ghana. ➤ It is ranked a 'Strong' bank by the ARB Apex Bank. It was also ranked 20 th of the Ghana Club 100 for the year 2010; ➤ SARB has its headquarters at Nankese, a farming village near Koforidua, and operates in 4 districts namely Suhum - Kraboa Coaltaar, West Akyem, Akwapim South and the New Juaben Municipality. ➤ SARB was enrolled as a Participating Financial Institution of REP II in 2006 to deliver rural financial services to target micro and small scale enterprises (MSEs) in the West Akim District; ➤ The bank has collaborated effectively with the BAC and RTF at Asamankese in supporting project clients to establish and grow their small businesses; ➤ Towards this end, the bank has accessed the REP Matching Grant Fund	REP

	<p>to support a carpenter, a dressmaker and hairdresser to acquire production equipment to increase production;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ It has also used its own funds to provide short term working capital loans to micro and small scale entrepreneurs; ➤ In the area of agro processing, the bank has used its own funds of GHc6,000.00 to assist the Nyame Bekyere Palm Oil Production Group at Quarshie village, to acquire a full range of palm oil processing equipment. The equipment comprises a palm fruit digester, screw press, 2no. diesel engines, a cracker and a corn mill; ➤ The beneficiary Nyame Bekyere Palm Oil Production Group has 25 members who are mainly farmers. It is essentially a female group with the males handling the processing machines. The acquisition of the processing equipment has enabled the palm oil group to increase production and income. 	
1:40 p.m.– 2:20 p.m.	Travel from Nankese to Korkormu	RTIMP
2:20 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.	<p>Site 4: Meet with the Milenovise Processing Group</p> <p>The groups facility has been upgraded into a GPC. The group is also the chain leader for the Milenovise Value Chain with 106 actors (farmers, traders, transporters and fabricators) organized under it.</p> <p>The group has been a beneficiary of several business development and management trainings conducted by RTIMP. Presently, the membership stands at 48 (45 females, 3males).</p> <p>Though operations are on individual basis, their products are marketed as a group to off-takers (Carges Gh. Ltd., Christiana Fomevor and smaller traders in the community).</p>	RTIMP
3:00 p.m.– 4:30 p.m.	Travel from Korkormu to Accra	