

**REPORT ON 7<sup>TH</sup> SALT IODIZATION TRAINING COURSE**

28<sup>TH</sup> & 29<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2004

*BY*

PHOEBE LOKKO & LYNDA HAGAN

**ORGANISED BY:**  
FOOD RESEARCH INSTITUTE

**SPONSORED BY:**  
UNITED NATIONS CHILDREN'S FUND

## **REPORT ON 7<sup>TH</sup> SALT IODISATION TRAINING COURSE**

### **INTRODUCTION**

The 7<sup>th</sup> salt Iodization training course was organized on the 28th and 29th September 2004 by the Food Nutrition and Socioeconomic unit of the Food Research Institute, CSIR, in response to a request by the participants.

The main aim of the course was to train salt producers who had keen interest in helping eliminate IDD in the country and to retrain other salt producers who had previously undergone a similar course.

UNICEF sponsored the training program.

### **OBJECTIVES**

1. To equip salt producers with salt Iodization techniques so that they can set up and successfully run their own plants.
2. To help achieve the global goal of 100% household consumption of Iodized salt.
3. To re-train salt producers who had had the training some years ago but need more information to upgrade their plants.

### **PARTICIPANTS**

There were six participants in all from the Greater Accra region. Two of them had participated in a similar course before but came to upgrade their knowledge. The particulars of the participants are listed below;

<b>NAME</b>	<b>COMPANY/POSITION</b>	<b>ADDRESS/LOCATOIN</b>
Steve Adu Darko	House Six Co. LTD/ Manager	Opposite Olla- Balm Bubuashie
Diana Kuwornu	Receptionist ( F.R.I)	Box M 20 Cantoment-Accra
Ivy Djangmah	Jasview Co. LDT/ Director	P.O. Box 11306 Tema

Beauty Maccarthy	Sparkling Minerals Director	P. O. Box 11306 Tema
Victor Mawuenyega	Vicbel Farm Director	P. O. Box SK 721 Tema
Samuel Galepetor	3 Wig Reg Ent. Manager	P. O. Box 638 Tema

## **TRAINING**

It was a two-day intensive course that took the form of lectures and practical demonstrations. The following lecture topics were covered;

- ◆ IDD Work and Micronutrient
- ◆ Monitoring Work
- ◆ Salt Production/Quality
- ◆ Salt Iodisation (theory)
- ◆ Costing and Record Keeping
- ◆ Equipment Maintenance
- ◆ Laboratory Work

The practical demonstrations were carried out in the afternoons after each lunch break. It involved production of Iodized salt using the Imer Mixer and the Rotary Drum. The participants were also taught how to iodize small quantities of salt using the hand. Materials used for iodizing small quantities of salt include; 10kg-margarine bucket, raw salt, plastic bowl or wooden container, plastic big spoon, potassium iodate and gloves.

The participants further observed the laboratory analysis for measuring the Iodine level in the iodized salt. They were encouraged to analyze every batch qualitatively as well as quantitatively so as to ensure that consumers get good product..

Before the closing ceremony on the last day, participants were asked to evaluate the training. Appendix 2 is a sample of the evaluation form used.

The participants each received a certificate, a training manual, a test kit and a file with training materials.

Mrs. Ernestina Agyapong, the project officer, UNICEF, addressed the closing ceremony. She commended the participants for their enthusiasm, contribution and punctuality during the course. She promised to help them get loans to start their business and also directed them to where they can get some of the machines and the equipment to set-up a plant. She further encouraged them to make very good use of the knowledge they had acquired so as to achieve the universal goal of 100% salt iodization. She later presented certificates and other items to the participants. Appendix 3 is a sample of the certificates that was given to the participants.

Finally, there was refreshment for the participants, facilitators and the invited guests after which all the participants departed to their various homes.

### **ACCOMMODATION AND MEALS**

All the participants were residents in Accra and thus came from their homes. Participants were served tea, coffee, soft drinks and cakes during the morning breaks. Lunch was served after the morning session.

### **RESOURCE PERSONS**

Four facilitators and one technical staff were involved in this training program.

1. Mrs. Phoebe Lokko  
FRI
2. Mrs. Ernestina Agyepong  
UNICEF
3. Mr. J. G. Armah  
Ministry of Health
4. Mrs. Lynda Hagan  
FRI

The Assistant  
Mr. David Ankrah  
FRI

Ms Bernice Kudjawu and Ms Anna Kuevi of the Food Nutrition and Socio-economic unit FRI were also present throughout the program offering assistance and helping where necessary.

## **EVALUATION**

All the six participants assessed the workshop as excellent and well planned.

Some of the expectations they had from the beginning of the training were to know:

- How to produce good quality iodized salt and to have encouragement from the resource persons to set up a plant.
- How to use the salt iodization machines.
- The standards and quality specifications required of small-scale salt producers.
- How to cost the iodized salt.

From the evaluation forms, it can be deduced that, their expectations have been met to a large extent. Three of them stated that, they would like to come back any time the need arises. They were all thankful to the organizers and the resource person of the workshop especially for their good human relations.

Two of the participants thought the time allocated for the training was not enough and that the next training course, should be three days instead of two. They all acknowledged the usefulness of the course and were satisfied with the way the program was executed.

However, there were a few suggestions. They suggested that the government should give financial assistance to the small-scale salt producers to enable them set-up a plant; that resource person should be in-touch to help them achieve their goal; and that the program should be Bi-annual to be sure that they are doing the right thing. On the whole, there was a general appreciation and thanks for the training course.

## **CONCLUSION**

The participants were thankful to the organizers of this training course. Judging from the response of the participants to the training and the assessment of their evaluation, one can conclude that the training program was successful. Suggestions made in this program would be considered in the subsequent ones.

## **ACKNOWLEDGMENTS**

The project is grateful to UNICEF for sponsoring the project and to food research for making the facilities available for use during the two days.

We also thank the participants for honoring our invitation. If they had not, the training could not have taken place and the extension of the salt iodization technology, which is one of the goals of the project, would not have been met.

Our gratefulness and thanks go to Mrs. Ernestina Agyepong and Mr. J. G. Armah of UNICEF and Ministry of Health respectively for their immense contribution towards this project, and to all the resource persons, thank you very much for sharing your knowledge with us.

Finally, the project wishes to thank all others who contributed in diverse ways to make this training a successful one.

## Appendix 1

**TRAINING AND RETRAINING IN SALT IODATION (PROGRAMME)**

<b>DATE/DAY</b>	<b>TIME</b>	<b>ACTIVITY</b>	<b>RESOURCE PERSON</b>
<b>TUESDAY</b> 28 <sup>TH</sup> SEPT, 2004	9:00am-11:00am	<b>OPENING CEREMONY</b>	
	11:00am-11:30am	<b>REFRESHMENT</b>	
	11:30-12:30pm	INTRODUCTION (IDD)	Mr J. Armah
	12:30 -1:30pm	SALT QUALITY	Lynda Hagan (Mrs)
	1:30pm-2:30pm	<b>LUNCH</b>	
	2:30pm-3:30pm	SALT IODATION	Lynda Hagan (Mrs)
	3:30pm-4:30pm	<b>SNACK &amp; CLOSE</b>	
<b>WEDNESDAY</b> 29 <sup>TH</sup> SEPT, 2004	9:00am-11:00am	SALT IODATION (PRACTICAL)	Phoebe Lokko (Mrs)
	11:00am-11:30am	<b>BREAK</b>	
	11:30-12:30pm	LABORATORY ANALYSIS	Mr David Ankra
	12:30pm-1:30pm	RECORD KEEPING/COSTING	Mr Daniel Blay
	1:30pm-2:30pm	<b>LUNCH</b>	
	2:30pm-3:30pm	MAINTENANCE OF EQUIPMENT	Mr Daniel Blay
	3:30pm-4:30pm	CLOSING CEREMONY/ REFRESHMENT	

APPENDIX 2

**EVALUATION**

1. Name: ..... Date:.....

2. Company .....

3. Position in Company: .....

4. What were you expecting to learn from this workshop? .....

.....  
.....  
.....  
.....  
.....

5. Have your expectations been met? .....

.....  
.....  
.....  
.....

6. Comments:.....

.....  
.....  
.....  
.....



Food Research Institute

# Training in Salt Iodation

This  
Certificate  
is awarded to

.....  
for attendance and participation in the  
  
**SALT IODATION TRAINING**

from ..... to.....

Given on this ..... day of ..... 19.....

Food Research Institute



.....  
Course Co-ordinator

.....  
UNICEF Programme Officer

