



VRA Takes Annual EPP/EMP Campaign to Shai-Osudoku

The Volta River Authority, as part of its commitment to safeguarding the Akosombo and Kpong Hydroelectric Dams and protecting lives and property along the Volta Lake organizes its annual Emergency Preparedness Plan (EPP) and Environmental Management Programme (EMP) Sensitization Workshop in the Shai-Osudoku District.

The workshop seeks to keep stakeholders well-informed about the operations of the Akosombo and Kpong hydroelectric dams and to enhance preparedness measures to ensure the safety of lives, property, and economic activities in the unlikely event of dam failure or controlled water spillage.

In his address, Manager, Integrated Water Resource Management, Ing. Philip Tetteh Padi, emphasized the purpose of the engagement, noting that it was aimed at reviewing existing measures for managing emergency incidents, understanding stakeholder concerns and expectations, as well as educating participants on essential safety and emergency response procedures. He further encouraged all participants to actively engage in the discussions.



A section of community residents present at the EPP/EMP engagement

Speaking on behalf of the District Chief Executive, the District Coordinating Director, Madam Eunice Korankye, described the engagement as timely and significant. He urged participants to contribute meaningfully to the discussions, seek clarification where necessary, and share the knowledge gained with members of their respective communities to promote public awareness and preparedness.

As part of the meeting, the VRA team delivered a detailed presentation on the Authority's Emergency Preparedness Plan (EPP) and Emergency Management Plan (EMP).

The presentation highlighted baseline data, potential impacts associated with any

possible spillage from the Akosombo Dam, and ongoing initiatives such as reforestation, alternative livelihood programmes, and gorge protection interventions aimed at preserving the Dam for future generations.

Stakeholders also raised several key concerns and suggestions, including:

1. Clarification on evacuation signage
2. The need for intensified community-level sensitization
3. Requests for a more in-depth examination of critical issues; and
4. Strategies for managing fear and panic during emergency alerts, among others.

Led by Mrs. Rhoda Arthur, the VRA team responded comprehensively to all concerns raised, providing the necessary clarifications to ensure participants had a better understanding of the matters discussed. She further reaffirmed the Authority's commitment to collaborating with all stakeholders to enhance public safety and ensure sustainable energy operations.

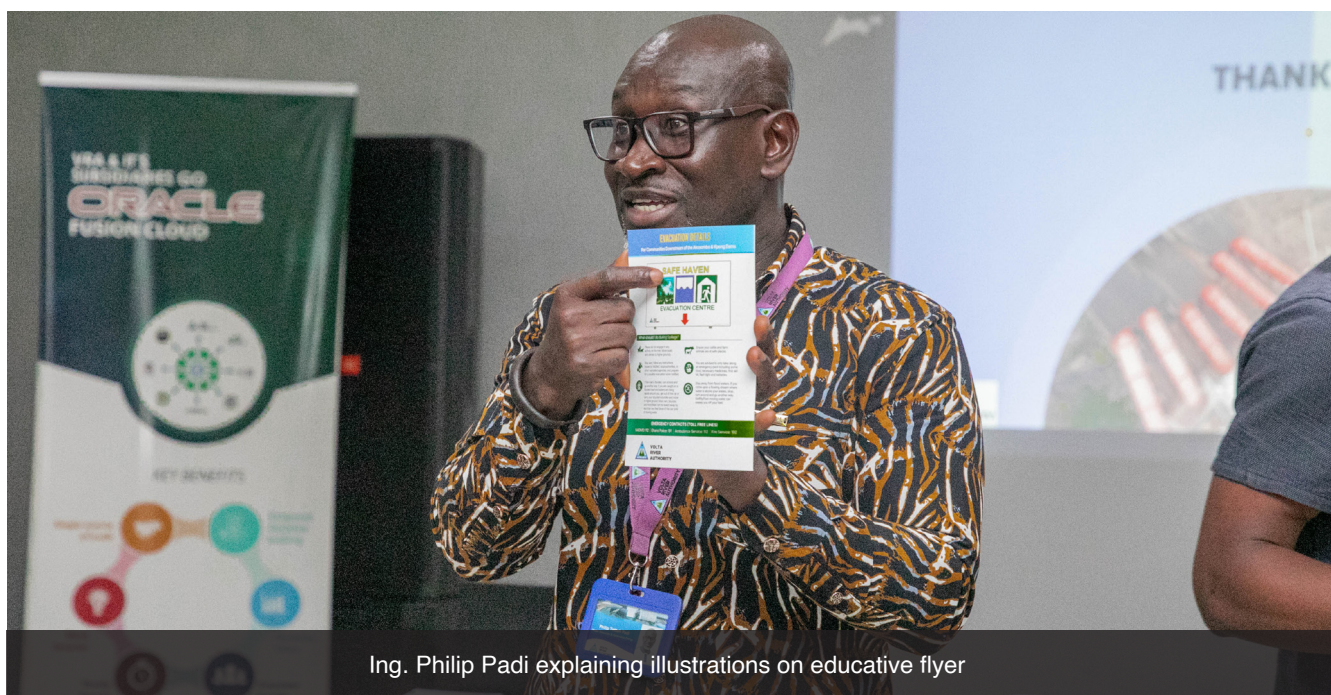
Present at the meeting were representatives from the EPA, NADMO, alongside other emergency response agencies, traditional leaders, Assembly Members from the various communities, as well as several other key stakeholders.



Senior official addressing community members during EPP engagement



Mrs. Rhoda Arthur addressing community members



Ing. Philip Padi explaining illustrations on educative flyer



Mrs. Elsie Asante-Akomah addressing community members present



NADMO Official addressing community members present



Section of leadership of the Shai-Osudoku District deliberating among themselves



District members present at the engagement



Community member speaking



Member of leadership asking a question



NADMO Officials present at EPP engagement



Ing. Akosua Owusu-Efaa addressing community members



VRA staff present at engagement



Community member present at meeting