ACCRA PERSPECTIVE TO URBAN RISK ANALYSIS AND REDUCTION

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1. INTRODUCTION

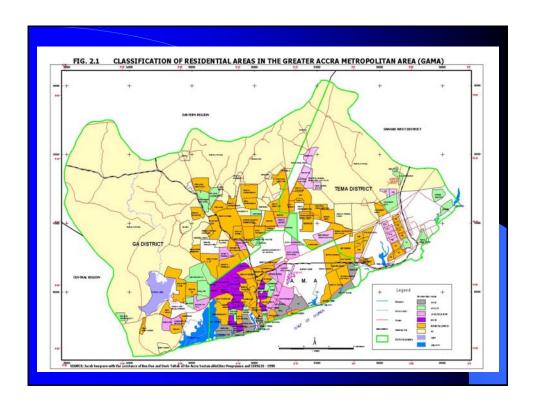
- Initial scoping study of household environmental problems in Accra (Jakarta and Sao-Paulo) with the objective of providing analytical support for strategies to improve the urban environment in cities of the South (1993 Publication)
- Special attention was given to analysis of intra-urban differentials and the links between environment and health (especially as it affects children and women)
- Results of this first study have already begun to influence both local action and international policy regarding urban environmental health
- All other research activities have issued from this pioneering work.

2. PAST RESEARCH OUTPUTS

Earlier background research on household environment and health has led to downstream policy related research:

- development of proxy indicators(1998) &
- GIS structure and mapping system (see Fig. 1)
- State of Environmental Health Report of the Greater Accra Metropolitan Area, Ghana (2005) which is the product of the application of the instrument developed:

The objective was to map the distribution of environmental risk factors and distribution of morbidity data and relate these to the existing environmental conditions.



ONGOING WORK:PROVENTION AND URBAN DISATER RISK ANALYSIS

- Ongoing research brings together experiences of everyday risks (environmental health), local and catastrophic disasters and so identifies linkages in a continuum of urban environmental risks.
- It also analyses the seasonal ecology of disease and disaster events and possible long term effects of climate change.
- The main outputs include:
 1.Environmental Health Watch and Disaster Monitoring in the Greater Accra Metropolitan Area(GAMA),2005, (2008)

2. Integrated Disaster Risk and Environmental Health Monitoring: Greater Accra Metropolitan Area,(Earthscan,2008)

FUTURE PERSPECTIVES:FROM RESEARCH TO ACTION

Development of academic training programmes at the:

- 1. Graduate Level
- 2. Undergraduate Level, and
- 3. Short Courses for policy makers and practitioners

All these are focused on Integrated Urban
Disaster Risk and Environmental Health
Monitoring under the Peri Peri U Project

Further Research around the Korle Lagoon is aimed at developing Community-based Environmental Health and Disaster Monitoring Information System for Sustainable Development, Human Security, and Ecological Restoration of the Lagoon

CONCLUSION

• These researches are aimed at building capacity in the next generation of academics, provide inputs for policy and programme interventions in integrated environmental health and disaster monitoring, and create avenues for collaboration with NGOs and CSOs in disaster risk reduction

