THE MANUFACTURING ECONOMY DRIVE IN AFRICA AND ITS EFFECT ON THE ENVIRONMENT AND HEALTH PROMOTIONS -A CASE STUDY OF GHANA-

RICHMOND LAMPTEY

Director of Operations ; Save the Earth, Ghana

Abstract - According to the World Health Organization, one of the 3 key elements of health promotion is good governance for health. By this, policymakers are required to prioritize and factor health implications in the decisions they make to prevent people from falling sick. Health Urbanizations involves legislations that help to reduce air and water pollution. The World Bank reports that Africa is the fastest urbanizing region with a growth projection from 11.3% to 20.2 by 2050. The 2014 UN report also estimates that in 30 years, people living in urban areas in Sub Sahara Africa will outweigh the rural residents. Gabon, for example, has 87% of its populations as urban dwellers. Regardless of the challenges that many major cities in Africa lack basic amenities such as proper sanitation, safe drinking water, drainage and other infrastructure to militate against the growing threat of urbanization, there is a renewed call for a shift to manufacturing economies with little precautions on its impact on the people's health and the environment. The government of Ghana has prioritized industrialization as a significant economic policy with the objective of setting up over two hundred and sixteen factories (216). This presents a scary optical considering the fact that Ghana has a frail health promotional policies and environmental pollution caused by factories has remained a major concern to watchers of global warming. To achieve this, we adopted a mixed methodology with in-depth empirical documentary analysis. Surveys and questionnaires were distributed to opinion leaders and residents in and around some selected factories. We also conducted field verification and interview management of some factories and regulator.

Objectives: The purpose of the study was to conduct an in-depth analysis of the existing policy document on health promotional policies and to verify the new factories adherence to environmental and air pollutions

Results: The findings unveiled that many of the new factories are located right in the middle of the residential areas and lacks proper environmental procedures and waste disposal channels. It was discovered that air and noise pollution was at the highest feet. We also uncovered the absolute absence of supervision by regulators since safety precautions were at it barest minimum in some of these factories.

Conclusion: The study recommends an urgent assemblage of stakeholders to revise their existing policy document to inculcate modern health to prevent an impending implosion. The Government should as a matter of urgency recruits many qualified field officers to augment the current number. We also recommend refresher training to staffs to update them on the current best practices.

Keywords - Health, Promotions, Pollutions, Government, Ghana