

**EXTENT OF ENFORCEMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT (EA)  
REGULATIONS WITHIN SELECTED MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES IN GHANA**

**Gyampo, Evelyn.**

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**ABSTRACT**

This study examined the Extent of Environmental Assessment (EA) Regulations in Selected Manufacturing Industries. The study was necessitated by the UNECA's (2004) assertion that Ghana had a functional and relatively robust EA system and aimed at assessing how effective the enforcement of the EA regulations has been in selected manufacturing industries. In order to achieve the aims of the study, the program performance of the EPA compliance and enforcement activities was reviewed for manufacturing industries in general and selected manufacturing industries, in particular. A survey was also conducted for a study population based on location and class size in order to assess primarily, their response to regulatory enforcement.

A significant observed outcome of the study was that enforcement of EA regulations was generally low in manufacturing industries, but observed responses to EA regulations from some large scale industries in Accra and Tema, in particular, were satisfactory. Influence of market forces on environmental performance of manufacturing industries did not seem to apply to the Ghanaian situation.

The Environmental Quality Standards under section 28 of the EPA Act, 1994 (Act 490) would have to be enacted to strengthen the enforcement of the EA regulations in manufacturing industries. Regulation 2 of EA regulations would need an amendment in order to facilitate the industry registration process.

The establishment of National Cleaner Production Centre (NCPC) for Ghana would play a significant role in helping reduce industry's impact on resource use and the environment.

**SUPERVISORS**

Prof. Asiedu, A.B.

Dr. Hayford, E.K.