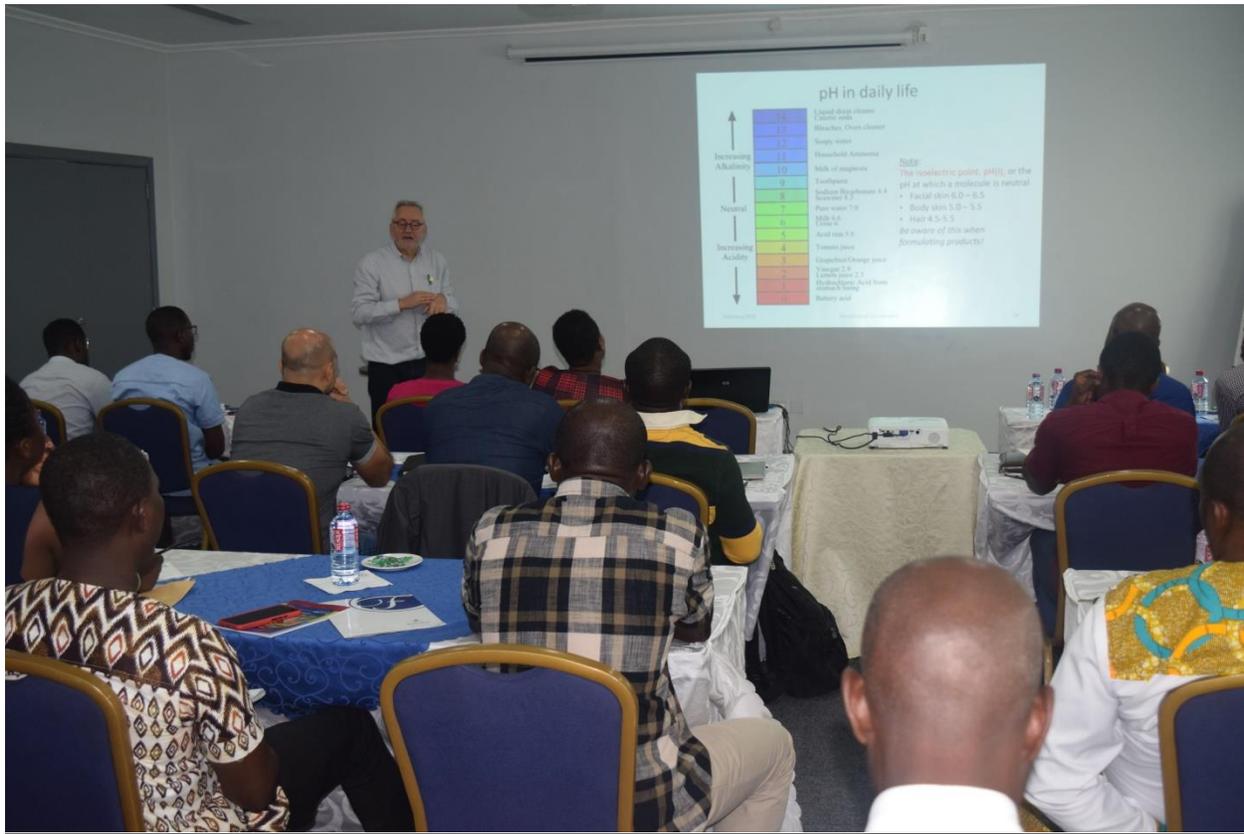


PUM NETHERLANDS TRAINS REGULATORS AND COSMETIC MANUFACTURERS IN THE COSMETIC INDUSTRY



The Food and Drugs Authority (FDA) in collaboration with PUM Netherlands has organized a five-day capacity building training for Regulatory Officers of the Food and Drugs Authority and representatives from some of the Local Cosmetic Manufacturing industry from 24th January to 28th January, 2020 in Accra.

PUM Netherlands is a volunteer organization committed to the sustainable development of small and medium-size enterprises in developing countries and emerging markets.



The five-day capacity development program commenced with a three-day training for Regulatory officers of the FDA, followed by a two-day training for the local cosmetic manufacturing industry.

The program sought to expand the capacities of the FDA regulatory officers as well as representatives from some of the local cosmetic manufacturing industry in the science and regulations of cosmetics and household chemical substances with the ultimate goal of improving the knowledge base of regulators and to make the local cosmetic industry become Current Good Manufacturing Practice (cGMP) compliant.

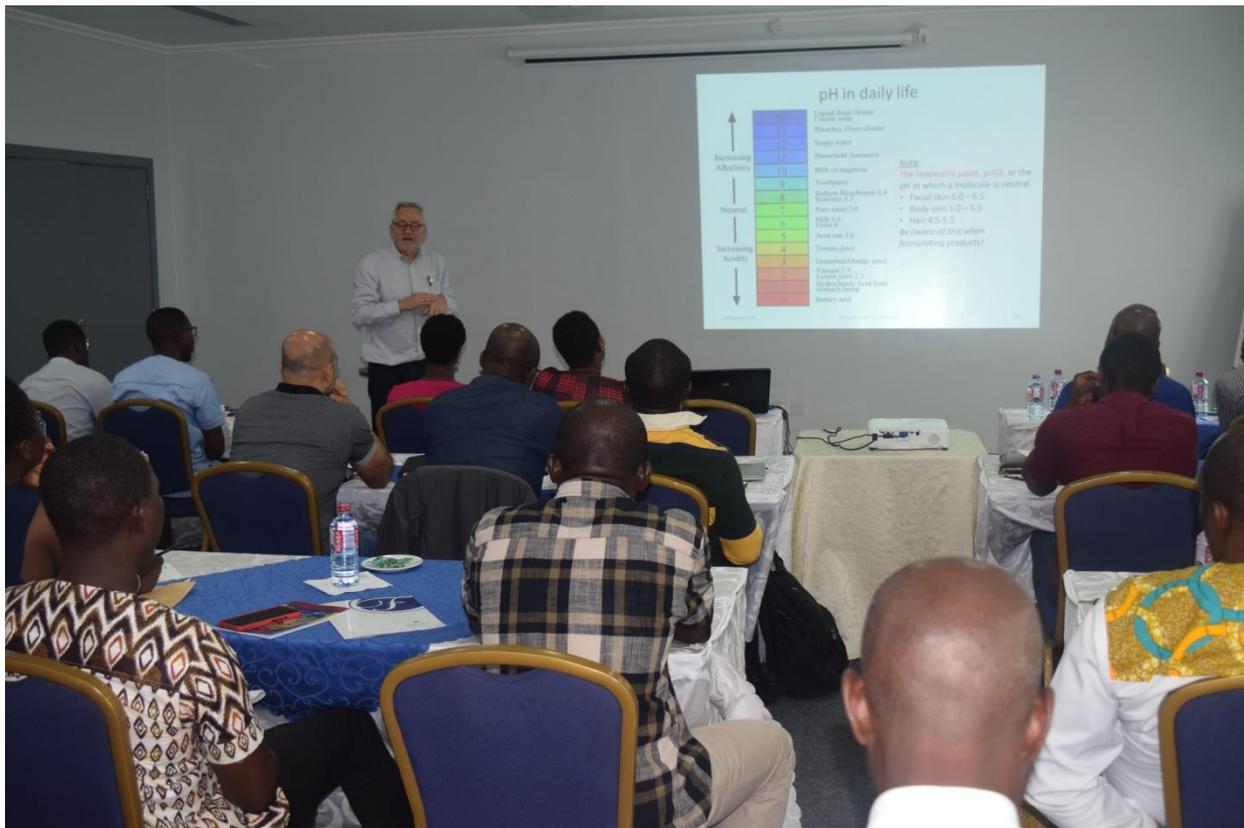
Some of the topics Participants were taken through included the fundamental chemistry applicable to cosmetics, safety issues, anatomy, physiology and treatment of skin and hair. They were also taken through regulations on cosmetics, packaging and labelling as well as right ingredients for cosmetics formulation.

Speaking at the program, the Chief Executive Officer of the FDA, Mrs. Delese Darko acknowledged that regulators are required to have deep understanding of the science,

manufacture and control of the product they regulate to ensure effective regulation and auditing of cosmetic manufacturing companies both local and abroad.

The PUM expert, Mr. Woestenborghs cautioned participants to desist from making health claims which have no scientific base or evidence.

Mr. Woestenborghs was equally impressed about the FDA's approach in handling the local cosmetic manufacturing industry and stated that "The fact that this training was not just set up for the regulators, but also for the industry, creates a mutual basis of understanding of relevant scientific, technical, safety and regulatory aspects that will not only help the regulators in their enforcement tasks but will also help the cosmetics enterprises to improve their products to become more competitive and grow the cosmetics sector in Ghana". To the regulators, he said "I'm impressed with the scientific level of the regulators. A lot of them have good chemistry knowledge and I think with the knowledge acquired; it will help them to work even better".



On the benefits acquired from the training, regulatory officers indicated that the training has broadened their understanding of the science behind cosmetics and formulation of the cosmetics products.

Participants from the industry on the other hand applauded the FDA for organizing training to build their capacity. They further requested that more of such trainings with practical sessions should be organized.

As part of the activity, participants paid a visit to two cosmetic manufacturing companies.



In her closing remarks, the Acting Deputy Chief Executive of the Medical Devices, Cosmetics Household Chemical Substances Division of the FDA, Mrs. Akua Amartey congratulated the industry players for taking part in the training and encouraged them to take a critical look at their packaging to make sure it conforms to acceptable standards. She further encouraged them to implement Good Manufacturing Practice in their facilities.

In all thirty-four (34) participants from twenty-four (24) cosmetic manufacturing companies and thirty-eight (38) regulatory Officers of the FDA received certificates of participation at the end of the training.

