

# Street Food Regulation in the Greater Accra Region

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## Introduction

Street foods, as defined by FAO, are ready-to-eat meals sold in public spaces, offering affordable food and jobs for low-income groups. Despite their importance, the sector faces food safety issues like contamination and poor hygiene. To address this, the FDA, with FAO support and in collaboration with the Ministry of Local Government Chieftaincy and Religious Affairs began a pilot program in 2020. The initiative in Korle Klottey Municipal Assembly involved registering, educating, and inspecting vendors to ensure hygienic practices..

A street food vending licensing scheme was launched in Osu, Accra in November 2021 to promote food safety. In May 2022, Environmental Health Officers from five assemblies in Greater Accra were trained as street food inspectors. The FDA, in collaboration with NCCE and local assemblies, conducted public sensitization on food safety and permit requirements. Ongoing inspections and education efforts continue to enhance compliance and hygiene among street food vendors.

The FDA signed an MoU with the Ministry of Local Government Chieftaincy and Religious Affairs to collaborate effectively to address the challenges in this sector Recognizing the role of food millers in food safety, the FDA and the Ministry of Local Government Chieftaincy and Religious Affairs trained millers in 12 Greater Accra municipalities. The training focused on food safety and good hygienic practices to ensure the foods they mill are safe for consumers.

## Methodology

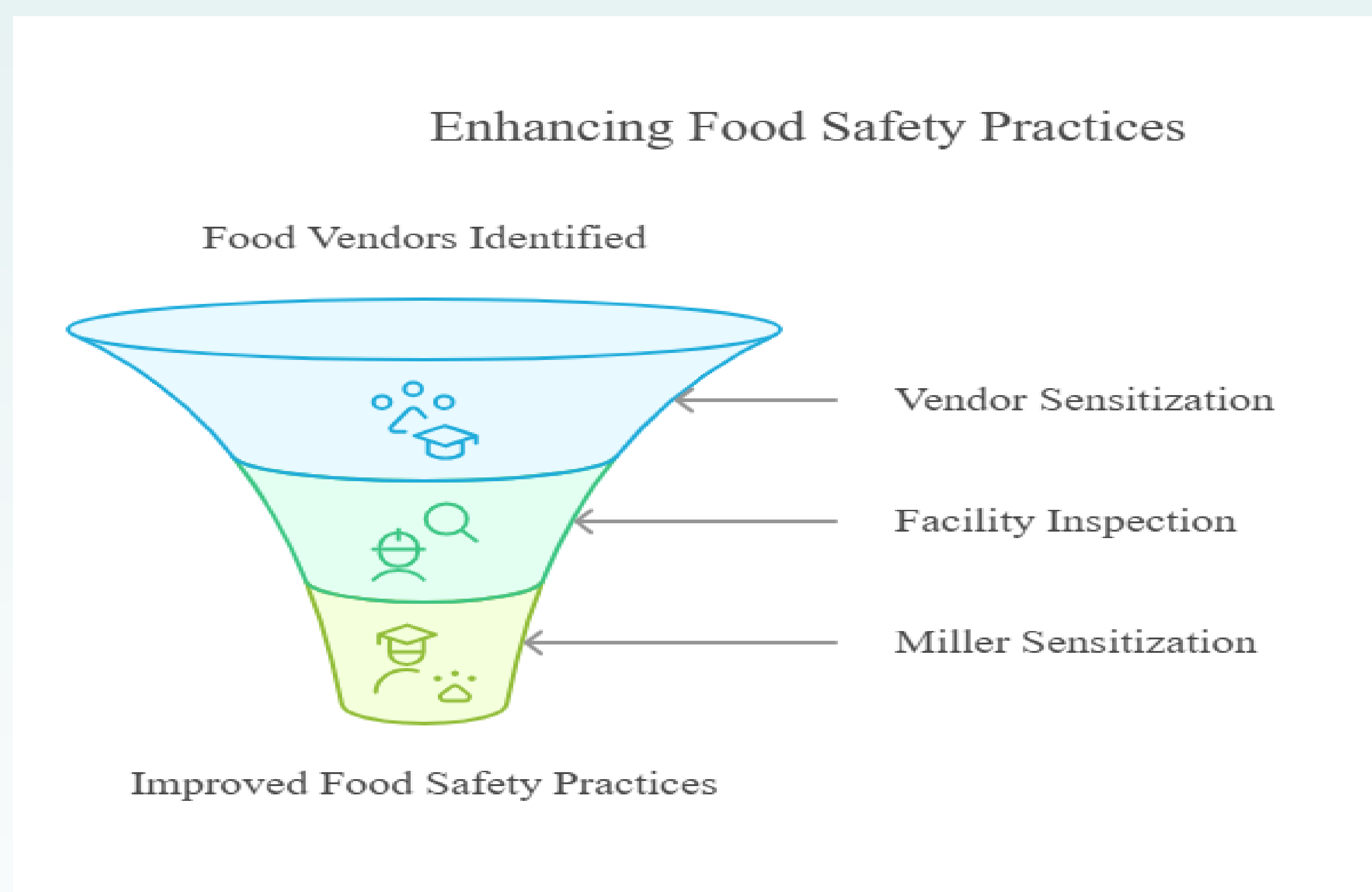


Figure 1: Overview of Methodology.



## Results

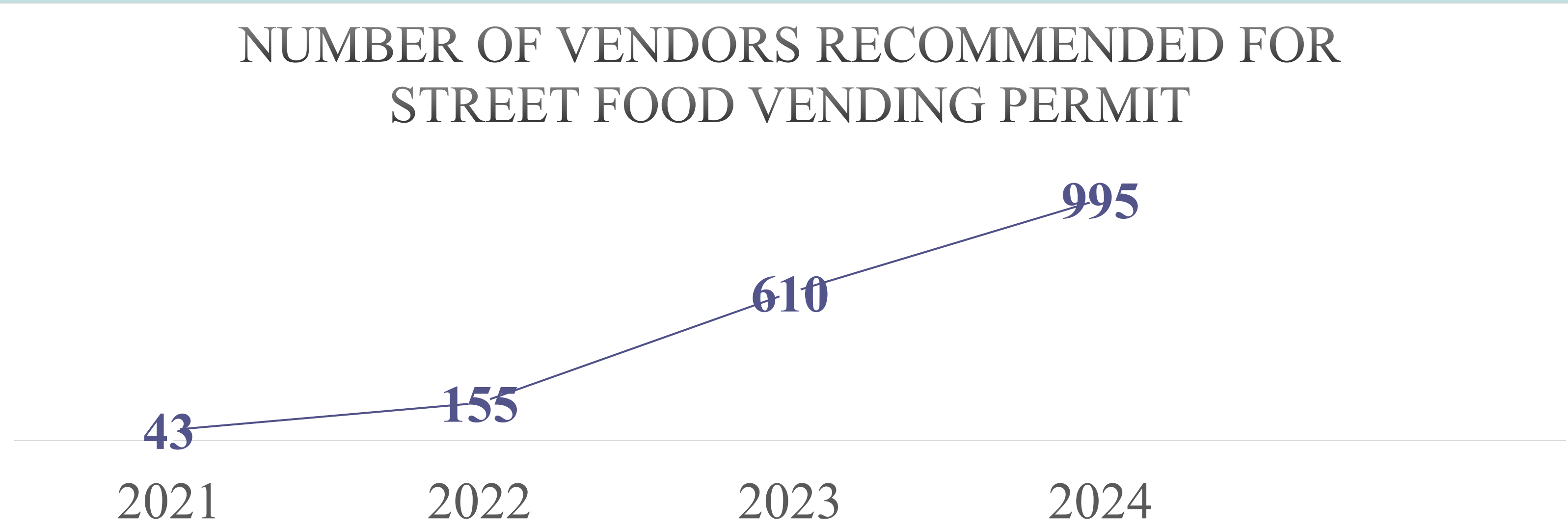


Figure 2 : Number of vendors recommended for street food vending permit in G/R.



## Discussion

The number of vendors recommended for the Street Food Vending Permit in the Greater Accra region has steadily increased over the years. In 2021, only 43 vendors were recommended, rising significantly to 995 in 2024. Although 2025 data only spans up to June the figure 600 vendors recommended shows that it will surpass the previous year.

Overall, the data reflects growing engagement and compliance among street food vendors over time.

Consumers will seek vendors with valid permit which will push non complaint vendors to work hard to comply

## Conclusion

The progressive increase in the number of street food vendors recommended for permits in the Greater Accra Region reflects the positive impact of regulatory interventions, training, and sensitization efforts by the FDA and its partners. Despite initial challenges in food safety and hygiene, the continuous collaboration, education, and inspection have led to improved compliance with hygienic practices. Sustained efforts are essential to further strengthen food safety in the street food sector and protect public health while supporting livelihoods.

## Acknowledgements

FAO, Ministry of Local Government Chieftaincy and Religious Affairs

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