

te HIV/AIDS campaigns in rural areas'

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a non-government
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ities beyond hotels

able them to achieve
also make an impact

in those areas that are vulnerable to the HIV/AIDS.

Mr Mensah, who was speaking in an interview in Accra, said although HIV/AIDS campaigns are constantly being propagated, enough is not being done for the message to reach the youth in the rural areas who constitute a large number of the population.

"Every now and then, there are HIV/AIDS conferences, but the actual work of propagating

the message to the youth in the deprived areas is relegated to the background," he said.

Mr Mensah said although the government has demonstrated its commitment in combating the disease, the bureaucratic attitude of those in charge of affairs is likely to threaten the success of the campaign.

Mr Mensah mentioned instances where managers were reluctant to give educational materials to be used in educational activities.

He said lack of adequate campaigns against AIDS in the rural area has made people to resort to all sort of negative methods such as amulets and parazones to cure the disease.

He observed that, if culturally sensitive programmes are put in place, where issues are objectively discussed, a lot would be achieved in combating the HIV/AIDS.

Mr Mensah suggested the training of services providers to offer youth-friendly services as being currently done in the Fanteakwa District.

He called on donor communities to subsidise the treatment of Sexually Transmitted Disease for the youth in the country, adding that this would be a good strategy in combating HIV/AIDS.

pilot project districts

Francios Reuter, pointed out that the project forms new ways of managing forest resources in tropical Africa in general and Ghana in particular and called for total operation and support from the local communities to make it a success.

The Okyenhene, Agyeefuo Amoatia Panin, who presided over the meeting, said environmental protection brigades are set up in various communities in the traditional area to check environmental abuse. He said the brigades should be headed by a member who will report to the local chief and urged chiefs in the traditional area to put in place by September, this year.

According to him, the brigades will, among others, ensure that those who flout regulations governing illegal timber operations, bush burning, mining, farming in forest reserves and along water bodies with impunity, are handed over to the law enforcement agencies.

He, therefore, appealed to non-governmental organisations, district assemblies, philanthropists and other public-spirited citizens to provide funds in support of the brigades to make them viable.

He also announced the launching of this year's environmental week by the traditional council to be observed from June 4 to 9 during which the Okyeman

Environmental Fund will be launched to raise funds in support of environmental programmes.



Ex-farm hand gets assistance

REV Alfred Osei-Poku, International Director of the Christian Help Work for African Association, a German NGO, has presented a wheelchair, a mattress and a bed spread to a bedridden farm labourer at Akim Ayirebi, in the Birim North District of the Eastern Region.

Mr Salifu Moshie, the farmer migrated to the area about 60 years ago, without any relative and worked as a farm hand, but is now bedrid-

den.

Rev Osei-Poku said his organisation decided to go to the aid of Mr Moshie when it heard about his plight.

Mr Moshie thanked the NGO for the gesture.

• Above: Mr Moshie (in wheelchair) just after the presentation. Those with him include Rev Osei-Poku (extreme left) and Miss Linda Ahenkora (extreme left) a member of the NGO.

Compensates three

he compensation without prejudice the outcome of the court police investigations into the case. He appealed to the people of the region to cooperate with the

service to protect and manage the remnants of the forest resources by exposing the selfish minority who want to hold the nation to ransom

factory for Antwikrom

Berrioplano, Spain, €46 million and the local community, €5 million.

The head of the Franciscan Community at Sunyani, Father Martino Corazzin has led the Catholic Bishop of Sunyani, Rt Rev James Owusu to inspect the project.

Father Corazzin expressed the hope that the project would help improve the finances of the people of the area, especially the women.

Rt Rev Owusu said it is the aim of the Catholic Church to help alleviate the problem facing the rural population.

Sefwi Bodi citizens celebrate Yam Festival

THE chiefs and people of Sefwi Bodi in the Juaboso Bia District of the Western Region,

to round off their annual Yam Festival.

Speaking at the function, the Chief of

cautioned the people to be wary of the disease and avoid unprotected sex.