GHANA'S EXPERIENCE IN THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A NATIONAL DATA CENTRE

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OUTLINE OF PRESENTATION

- Introduction
- Ghana National Data Centre
- Activities
- Benefits
- Conclusion

INTRODUCTION

- The Government of Ghana in a bilateral agreement with the Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear Test - Ban Treaty Organisation(CTBTO) have established a National Data Centre in Ghana with the aim of monitoring the testing of nuclear explosions.

- The NDC was commissioned on the 3rd of February, 2010 at the Ghana Atomic Energy Commission by the Honourable Minister for Environment, Science and Technology of Ghana and the Director of the International Data Centre, Vienna.

WHO ARE WE ?

- A Data Centre with technical expertise in the monitoring and verification technologies of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization(CTBTO).

Our tasks and functions include the following:

- Accessing and receiving seismic, hydroacoustic, infrasound and radionuclide data and products from the IMS and IDC for monitoring nuclear test explosion.

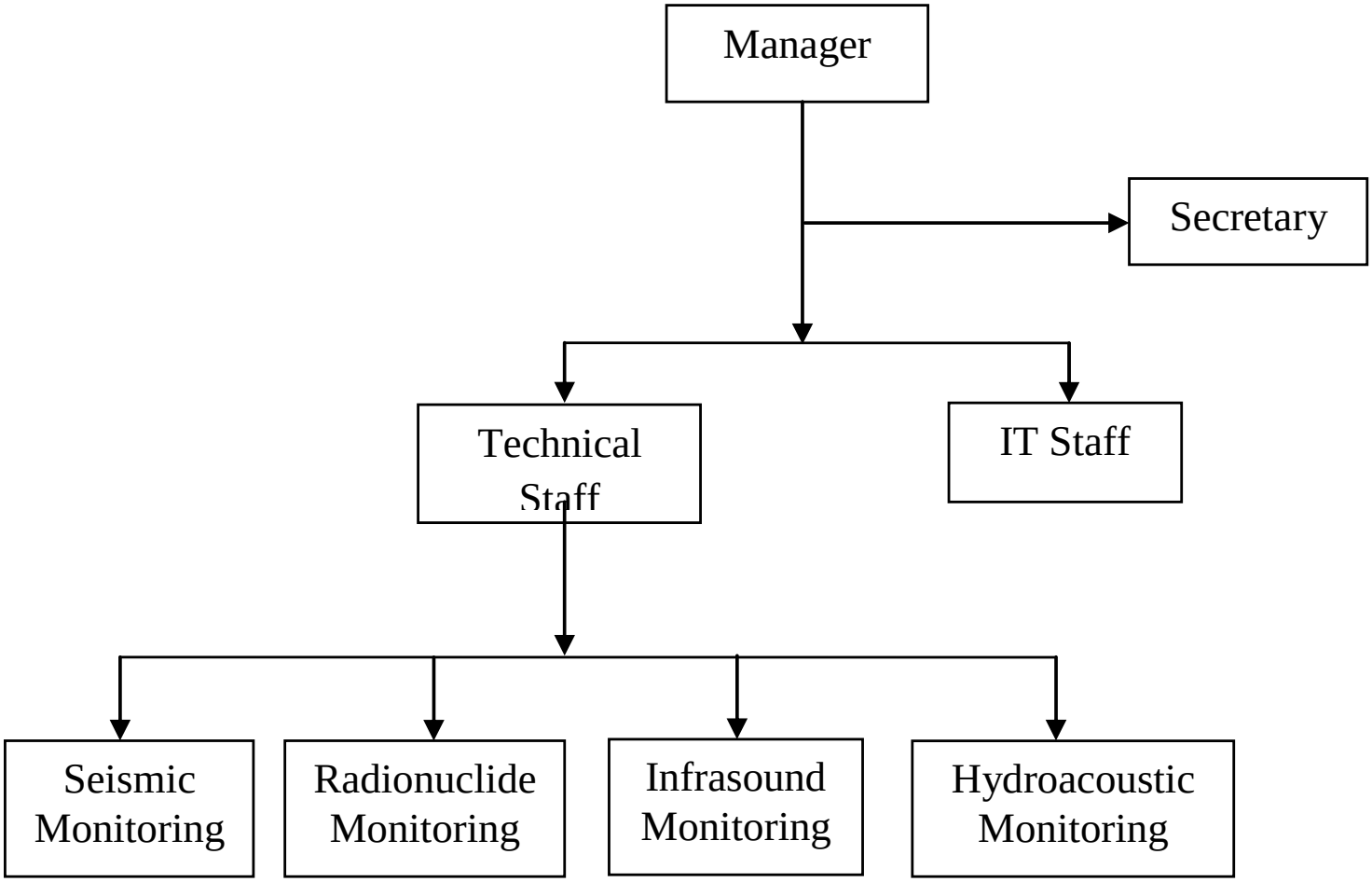
The data and products are used for:

- Monitoring the test for nuclear explosions.
- Treaty verification and compliance.
- Natural disaster management and other civil applications.
- Scientific applications such as the study of the structure of the earth.

GHANA NATIONAL DATA CENTRE

Proposed NDC building

ORGANOGRAM OF THE NATIONAL DATA CENTRE



- Staff strength (at present) : 3
- 2 Technical staff (1 manager and 1 scientific officer)
- 1 Information Technology staff
- 3 more people to be engaged.

- At present Ghana does not have any operational seismic recording system in place for monitoring its earthquakes.
- The establishment of the Data Centre is timely and strategic as it gives us the capability to access seismic data from our neighbouring countries and other international organizations.

- The NDC would complement the effort of the Geological Survey Department of Ghana in monitoring seismic activities in the country, with the data it receives from the IDC.
- Using the data received from IDC we now have records of events that occurred in the country and other African countries.
- The data is made available to our stakeholders for earthquake disaster mitigation.

OUR ACTIVITIES

- Access seismic data from our neighbouring countries and the International Data Centre.
- Gather information about possible Nuclear tests and earthquakes.
- Analyze waveforms requested from IDC.
- Produce bulletins on earthquakes.
- Prepare monthly and quarterly reports on seismic events that occurred locally and in Africa.
- Make data available to our stakeholder Agencies for earthquake disaster mitigation.

- Provide information on potential earthquake hazards to assist appropriate government agencies to develop land and building policies for the nation.
- Embark on public awareness educational programme on earthquake safety measures.

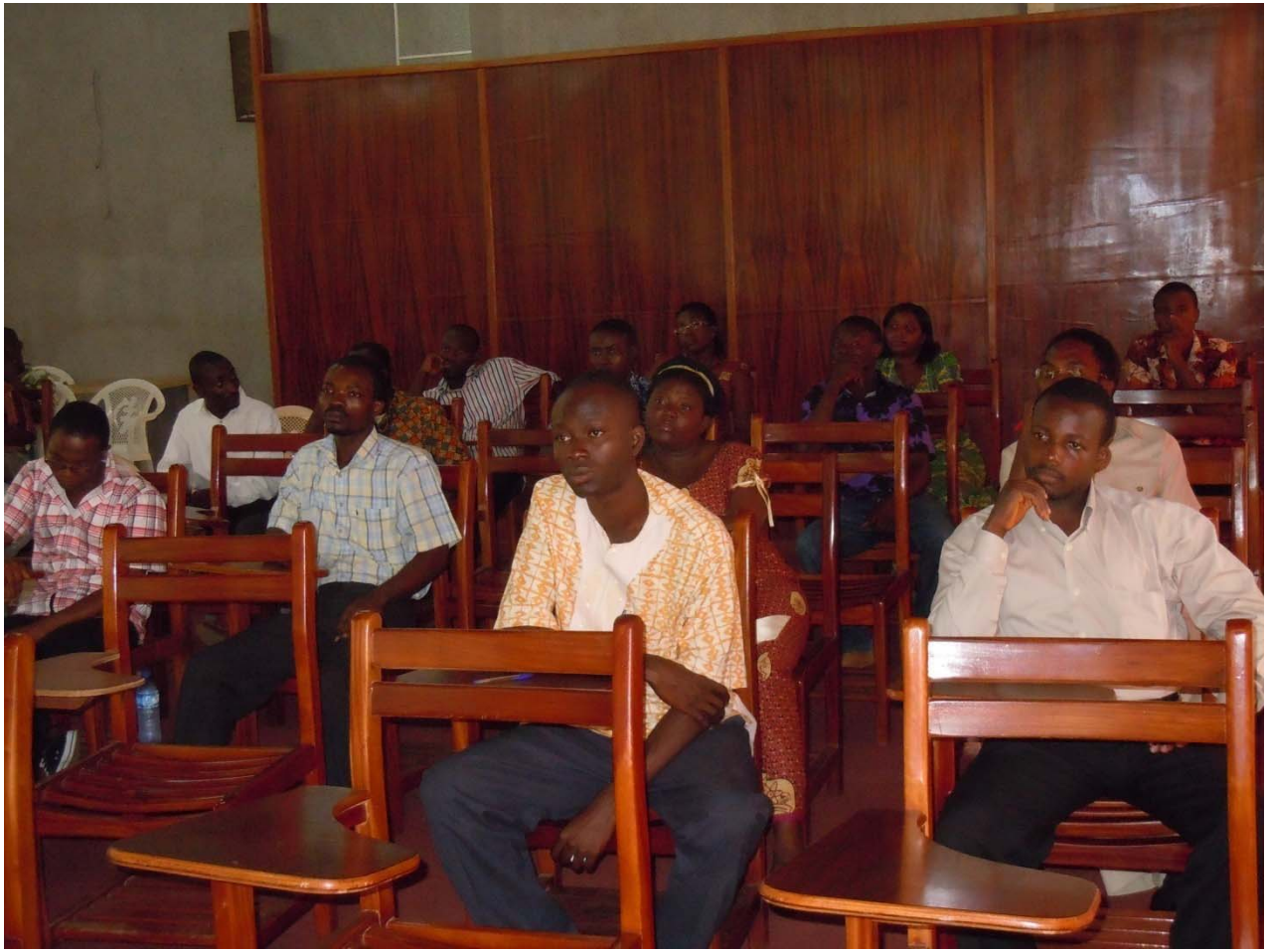
Educational campaign on quake safety

- The Centre in collaboration with its stakeholder agencies periodically organises public lectures on earthquake disaster mitigation.
- An example of such a public lecture was one organised in collaboration with the National Forum for Harnessing Research, Science and Technology in Accra on 3rd March, 2010 which attracted the general public and the media.
- The Hon. Minister of Science and Technology and staff of the Centre have scheduled to meet with the citizens of Nyanyano in the Central region of Ghana to educate them on what they should know about earthquakes and earth tremors.

NDC resource person making contribution at a workshop

Students visit the NDC

Attentive audience,NDC seminar



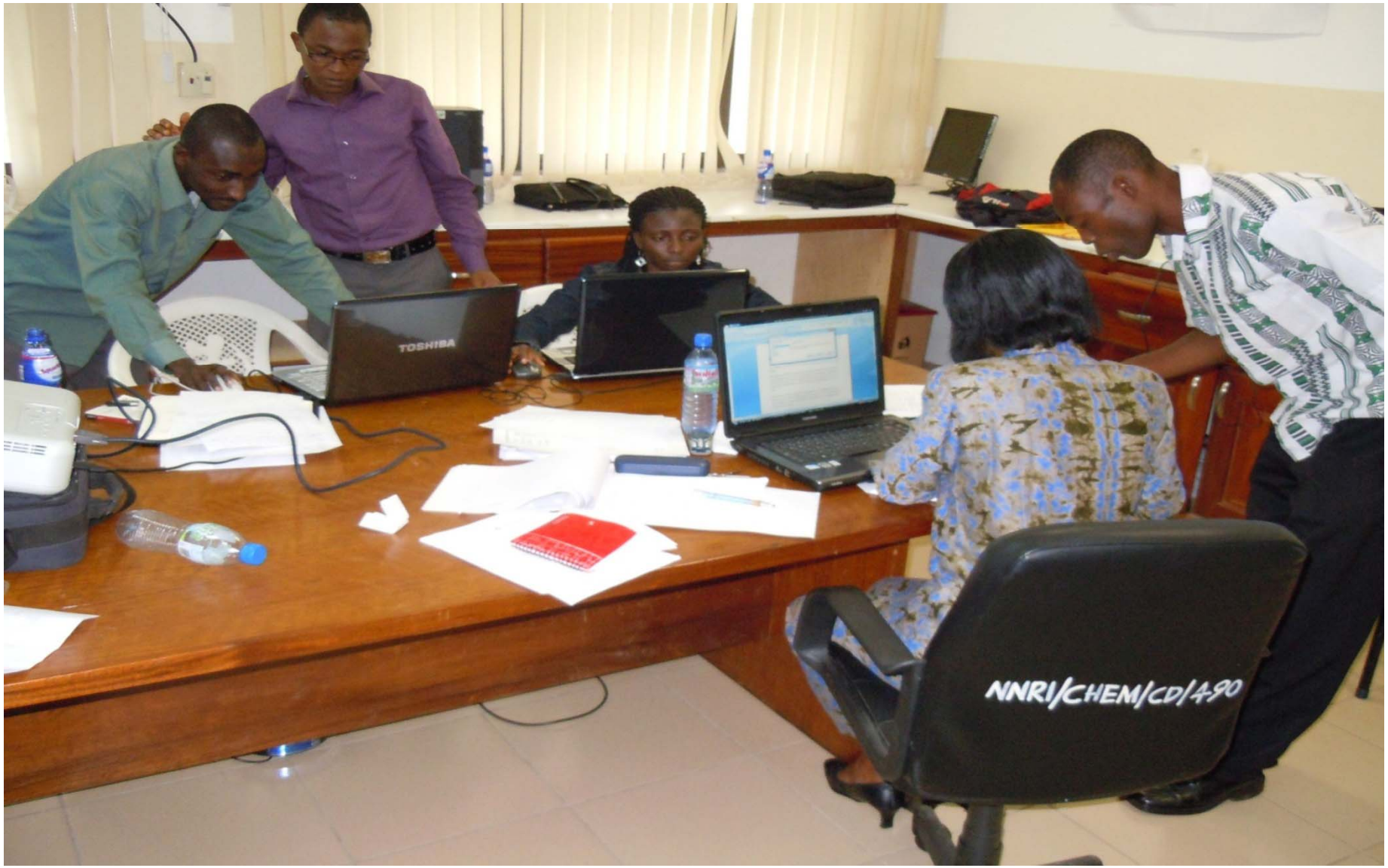
THE INSTALLATION PROCESS

Unpacking and assembling

Powering the rack

UPS preparation and networking

TRAINING SESSION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STAKEHOLDERS POSE WITH DG OF GAEC AND TRAINER

BENEFITS OF CTBTO TO GHANA

- Access to certified data as well as transfer of technology in terms of state-of-the-art science and technology and global communication system.
- Availability of data for:

  The research Institutions

  The Universities

  Earthquake disaster management organizations
- Training and availability of software

CONCLUSION

- The Ghana National Data Centre though very young is making a lot of progress in the area of public awareness education on earthquake disaster mitigation.
- It does this in collaboration with its stakeholder agencies such as the Universities, Geological Survey Department and the National Disaster Management Organization.
- Ghana is pleased to be part of this very important global agenda. Monitoring the testing of nuclear explosions to ensure global security and peace.

THANK YOU VERY MUCH FOR YOUR ATTENTION