

See at the end of the report: For what do we need financial support for in the near future?

More information in PDF format can be found in the News February 2022 on www.ghatronic.com

Situation in March 2022:

The training of our 2 trainers Abraham and Evans at WAVA (West African Vehicle Academy) could continue during our lockdown.

During the two-year delay of the first seminars by Covid 19, the situation of the workshops has changed: Many of the well-trained mechanics started to work with digital diagnostics and established it in their workshops. Still the depth of this diagnosis is not sufficient for all applications, but already by using the simpler diagnosis there is an increase in knowledge.

Therefore, we had to modify the training content. We divided the workshops of the informal sector into groups for us, to be able to organize adapted training courses based on professional training (CBT=Competence Based Training).

Group 1: Workshops with recognized trained personnel (e.g., vocational school, technical university, university)

Group 2: Workshops with not officially recognized trained personnel (trainees are trained by the workshop owner)

Group 3: Roadside workshops with mechanics from socially disadvantaged groups (without school education).

To achieve our goal that the mechanics trained at Ghatronic are multipliers, group 1 mechanics are trained first. The training for this group is initially free of charge, but participants are selected who must be available as trainers for Ghatronic seminars. They must hold at least 5 seminars for mechanics of group 2.

During 2022 we will plan together with the trainers how to train the mechanics of group 3.

Our goal to train female trainers as well will be planned in 2022 and should begin no later than 2023.

Workshop with Diagnosis Seminars

To enable seminars to be held at different locations so that training participants do not have to travel long distances, we decided to launch the "Workshop with Diagnosis Seminars" project (workplace-based training).

Workshop owners are supported with a loan to set up a small seminar room (for about 5 people) where informal mechanics can be trained. The prerequisite is that either the workshop owner or a mechanic/master of this workshop has previously completed the courses at Ghatronic with a good result, he is suitable for the trainer job, and he can prove a guarantor. The seminar room in the workshops can be for example a 40 ft container, which can be used as an office for the workshops outside of the seminar operation.

Our trainer Evans, who has his workshop in Asokwa, close to the Ahinsan youth center, will set up the first "Workshop with Diagnosis Seminars" there.

This project has a model character for us, problems should be identified and here we can quickly implement improvements. We already know Evans well, the cooperation with him is excellent and he is also financially secured by a reliable guarantor.

The first 2 seminars (30.3. to 1.4.2022 and 4.4. to 6.4.2022) will be held at the vocational school ATTC (Accra Technical Training Center), after that the first seminar will be held at Evans workshop in Kumasi on 11.4. and 12.4.2022. We will conduct all these seminars together with SES senior expert Günther Mistele.

After that, our trainers Abraham and Evans will hold the seminars, they will carefully select the participants, because this is to train as many multipliers as possible.

Cooperation with GNAG (Ghana National Association of Garages):

Nationwide in Ghana, most of the informal car repair workshops are registered and organized in GNAG. GNAG operates nationwide, the regions are divided into districts and zones, each zone has its own manager who has close contact with the garages in the immediate area. At the first 2 seminars at the ATTC 4 mechanics and the first manager of the GNAG from the District Ofankor (near Accra) will participate. Because the interest was very high here, we will also invite 4 to 5 members of the GNAG to the seminars in Kumasi. The cooperation with this organization is promising.

Workshop and seminar room in Awoshie/Accra

Since with the new concept the current 2 workshop rooms and the seminar room are not necessary for the time being, they will be rented temporarily. The premises that were renovated in 2019/2020 as quarters for the external experts will remain in Awoshie for this purpose (see next paragraph).

Financial situation

Since the workshops and the seminar room were renovated for 3900 € (equivalent to 22620 GHC in January 2020), the owners of the house will waive the payment of the rent of 2640 € from March 2021 to March 2022, also the rent for the rooms for the external expert will be waived until the end of 2026. As we have 2 reliable trainers and the organization of the seminars is advanced, we will not need external experts permanently. Ideally, the experts will always come to Ghana for a few weeks to support Ghatronic in the further development of the seminars. During this time, meals and room maintenance will be taken care of by the house staff. They will receive an additional tip for this. These savings will result in no overall loss in financial planning for Ghatronic. During the time when no external expert is in Accra, the premises could be rented out to acquaintances (this is somewhat difficult because the rooms do not have a separate entrance, so only acquaintances come into question). On a positive note, the relocation of the seminar venues eliminates the need for additional, certainly expensive, equipment for our workshop space.

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A larger amount, not yet quantified, will be needed when we conduct the seminars with the GNAG. Our trainer Abraham agreed to conduct seminars in the different districts. We are currently in negotiations, since we cannot finance a permanent employment, we are considering what amount he can get per seminar day incl. expenses.

He should also, to be able to teach effectively, have at least one good diagnostic device from Launch as well as a high-end device from Wuerth. The Company Wuerth supports us regarding the training of our trainers and the possibility to get used equipment.

To be able to realize this, we are dependent on financial support, we therefore ask organizations for grants and private individuals for donations.

The exact financial needs will depend on how many districts our trainer teaches in, the goal "train the trainer" means that maybe in a short time the GNAG will have its own trainers.