

Volta Small Scale Businesses Flourish

From Macch Adjetei Sowah, Ho

THE VOLTA regional minister, Kofi Dzamesi, has expressed gratitude to the management board of the Business Sector Advocacy Challenge Fund (BUSAC) for the support they are giving to the private sector to enable it play its role effectively as the engine of growth of the economy.

He said the BUSAC fund project, which is aimed at the realization of set objectives in an encompassing and effective manner towards the goal of reducing poverty in the region and Ghana at large, is a confirmation of the huge confidence that the donor community has in Ghana. He said it is also a clear evidence of an onward march towards economic stability, private sector development and good governance.

Speaking in an interview with *The Heritage* at Ho, the regional minister, Kofi Dzamesi, re-echoed Government's refrain that the private sector remains the key to the development of the Ghanaian economy, but was also quick to stress that the private sector has to do more to accelerate the development of the economy as expected.

He commended DANIDA, DFID and the USAID, the official aid organisations of Denmark, the United Kingdom and the United States, for supporting the use of pri-

ivate sector advocacy in both formal and informal sectors of the Ghanaian business environment for the development of the needed enabling environment for economic growth.

He acknowledged the awareness drive in the Volta region to improve the opportunities of access of its funds among the private sector groupings in the region; which, he said, has been so positive for nine organisations benefiting from more than three billions cedis.

The beneficiary organisations include the GTUC - regional office, Ho, - towards the education on the Labour Act 2003 Act 651; the Volta regional branch of the Association of Small Scale Industries [ASSI] for full participation of the private sector in decision making at the municipal and district levels; Jubilee Radio 102.6mhz, Keta - to ensure the enforcement of the fishing laws within the southern Volta region; Ghana National Chemical Sellers Association, Ho - review of the law for enhancing health care service delivery in Ghana; Agotime Akpokope Vegetable Growers Association - for an increase in the number of agricultural extension agents to ensure that farmers are well sensitised on the use of agro chemicals for increased productivity; Volta Market Traders Association [MATA] and Kingdom Farmers, Sogakope.