The ILSI-UG Food Safety and Nutrition training Center of the Department of Nutrition and Food Science, University of Ghana is a subsidiary of the ILSI-SA branch on the ILSI-PIP platform.

The Center successfully organized four food safety short courses in 2017. The courses were a) Food Safety for Nutritionists and other Health Professionals (FSN), and b) Hazard Analysis and Critical Control point (HACCP) system. Two of the courses (FSN and HACCP) were held in Accra (July 24-28, and July 31-August 4); whereas the remaining two (also FSN and HACCP – November 20-24, and November 27-December 1) were held in Nigeria in collaboration with the federal university of Agriculture, Abiokuta (FUNAAB). The HACCP course was the maiden in Nigeria.

Interest in the Center’s training activities by industry and other stakeholders has increased over the years, reflecting in the replication of the FSN and HACCP courses in Nigeria, and the number of attendees who participated in the 2017 courses compared to the previous year(s).

Thirty-two (32) and 24 people attended the FSN course in Accra and Nigeria respectively; whereas 39 and 18 attended the HACCP in the respective locations. Using the Accra schedule as an example, the distribution of the participants with respect to the institutions they were from were as follows:

HACCP - food industry = 20; catering/institutional catering = 3; academia = 8; Government =5; fresh graduate =1.

FSN - food industry = 13; government/regulatory = 3; hospitals/nutritionist = 1; Caterers = 4; Academic = 11.

The Program Manager of the ILSI-UG FSNTC, Prof K. Tano-Debrah has encouraged course attendees, since 2009, to be good ambassadors of food safety at their work places, homes, and in their communities.

The ILSI Associate (currently Snr. Associate/Food Safety Educator), Mr. B. K. Mintah, has also over the years stressed, in a closure lecture: “Training in HACCP”, the importance of training in ensuring safety along the food production chain, and the need for every player along the chain to avail to training like that organized by the ILSI-UG Center.

This is reflected in the increase in the number of attendees in 2017 over the previous years.

Most food industries in Ghana now contact the ILSI-UG Center to inquire about training schedules (particularly HACCP) so as to plan to participate – affirming the increased interest of industry in the Center’s training courses.
HACCP course (Accra) attendees by year

FSN course (Accra) attendees by year

FSN course (Nigeria) attendees by year
Group photograph – 2017 FSN course (Accra)

Group photograph – 2017 FSN course (Nigeria)
Group photograph – 2017 HACCP course (Accra)

Group photograph – First HACCP course (Nigeria)