



PRESS RELEASE

29th October 2025

EPA DIRECTIVE PROHIBITING THE FABRICATION, IMPORTATION, SALE AND USE OF “CHANFAN” MACHINES IN GHANA

The Environmental Protection Authority (EPA) has observed that the fabrication of Chanfan machines is being undertaken without the required permits or environmental authorization from the EPA, contrary to Act 1124 and the Environmental Protection (Environmental Assessment) Regulations, 2025 (L.I. 2504).

While the fabrication and sale of these machines may have provided a source of livelihood for some individuals, their use in mining operations within rivers has caused severe environmental destruction, including the pollution of water bodies, siltation of riverbeds, and loss of aquatic biodiversity.

IN EXERCISE of the powers conferred on the Environmental Protection Authority under sections 3(2)(b) and 35 of the Environmental Protection Act, 2025 (Act 1124), and in accordance with the mandate of the Authority to regulate, protect and co-ordinate all matters relating to the environment, including to restrict, or prohibit activities that pose serious risks to the environment and public health.

The following Directive is hereby issued:

With immediate effect,

- The fabrication, importation, and use of Chanfan machines without EPA permit are prohibited. Any workshops or shops found producing or selling these machines will be shut down, and all existing equipment will be seized and dismantled.”
- That all individuals, workshops, and establishments involved in the fabrication, importation, sale, or distribution of Chanfan machines must cease operations immediately.

The Authority also issues a final warning to individuals, groups, and companies engaged in mining within water bodies to stop such illegal activities immediately as these actions are serious violations of national environmental and mining regulations.

EPA enforcement operations, in collaboration with security agencies, will ensure full compliance with this directive through monitoring, seizure, and prosecution where necessary.

For further information or enquiries, kindly contact the Environmental Protection Authority via **email:** client.relations@epa.gov.gh or **Tel:** 0506694760/0507227726 or visit www.epa.gov.gh.

ISSUED BY:
MANAGEMENT
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AUTHORITY