



GHANA CONSULTING ENGINEERS ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

THE GCEA NEWS

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WHO WE ARE..

GCEA is the Ghana Consulting Engineers Association. It was incorporated on 21st February 1973 and charged with promoting and implementing the consulting engineering industries in Ghana on behalf of its Member firms and to disseminate information and resources of interest to its members.

MEMBERSHIP

Membership of the Association shall be open to firms and individuals primarily engaged in engineering consultancy and

related activities whose head office or branch office is in Ghana and who subscribe to the objects of the Association.

AFFILIATIONS

GCEA is recognized by the Ghana Institution of Engineering as a formal Association of Consulting Engineers in Ghana and a key partner to the growth of the engineering profession. It is a member of FIDIC Africa; International Federation of Consulting Engineers

(FIDIC). Some aims and objectives of GCEA include;

- ◆ Formulating policies and guidelines upon which the practice of professional engineering services shall be performed.
- ◆ Enhancing the collective reputation and economic viability of the members of the Association.
- ◆ Promoting education and training in engineering and its professional practice.



GCEA swears in Council Members for 2022/23 term at the December 2021 Annual General Meeting.

The President's Message—Ing. Magnus Lincoln Quarshie

Ing. President Albert Viala des Bordes, Past Presidents, Council Members, Dear Colleagues and friends;

First of all, thank you for electing me as the President of GCEA for the next Council Year. When I received a call plus the nomination form – let me be optimistic, I just felt life well lived is a call to service. Ing. President and Colleagues I accept to be president and you just heard me affirm this in the solemn oath. May God help us all.

Before I continue, let me use the opportunity to eulogize our founding fathers who through their toil have brought the Association this far. Permit me to single out some **Living Legends**; Ing. Asare Yeboah and Team Associated Consultants, Ing. Akwaboah, Ing. Joe Okyere and Ing. Albert Ogyiri.

Thank You so much for holding us together all this while. Thanks to Past Presidents, council members, member firms, and individuals who continue to serve in diverse ways.

Led by Ing. Viala in the past council year and the last council we have made in roads in;

- Seeking waivers for taxes on consulting services
- Input to Local Content and promoting Visibility of the association

During the next council year, we should continue efforts made by the past council. There are a number of Challenges with the Consulting Practice Business in Ghana but I am optimistic that they are sur-

mountable. Africa for that matter Ghana is the best place to be at this time in terms of infrastructure development. The last infrastructure report card which focused on water, energy and the transportation sectors revealed that our infrastructure level was graded D. Evidently it is a case of building to fit for purpose needless to say building infrastructure that last forever.

The appears to be so much going on, however many of our local firms are either not involved and in some cases they are like third party level participants. As a country with a huge deficit of infrastructure her engineering firms are key and cannot be



standers or relegated to the background. The consulting industry sector like in other organized countries is a key driver for industry and academia relationship where many students go through internship and mentorship. This will not happen with the going trend where local consulting businesses do not thrive. It is sad to find brilliant young graduates sitting at bank counters, or walking about the city as salesmen for banks because they cannot find placement in the Consulting and Construction industry. This must change

and yes we can as a country and the political will cannot be left out even though as a sector we need to keep knocking on doors and keep the lobby for the growth and sustainability of the sector.

Of course as businesses, firms exists today to make **profit**, to ensure that the **people** we engage and the people among whom we work for in the various communities benefit from our skills and knowledge and at the same time we adopt options in our design and advice protect the **planet**, in the right parlance referred to as the triple bottom-line.

I am able to confirm from a recent research I carried out the fast level of attrition of local firms. This **research** led to a **MBA – Leadership and Sustainability – Building Sustainable Enterprise: A case of Succession Planning.**

We still hear of firms from the other side some of which are over 100 years in consulting and construction practice such as Mott Macdonald, Keir Construction, Atkins to name a few.

In the next council year I pledge to lead the council to continue the good work by the past council in the areas, of developing local content policies for national discourse, creating visibility for the GCEA.

We intend also to look at the area of **Succession planning** and **Sustainability** of Consulting Businesses. Too often we tend to think these only happen when we have made a lot of profit. Rather we need to get our house in order in a manner that gives and brings security to young professionals to remain in the practice with the

The President's Message Con't.

assurance of growth. We need to change the way we do business through constant research and development. We need to continue to engage all stakeholders including the government, the major employer in Ghana, state agencies and private developers in order to transform our communities and make our skills and knowledge through our firms more relevant to improving the quality of life amongst the people we serve.

Together we can

Long live GCEA

Long live Ghana



GCEA COUNCIL MEMBERS– 2022/23



Ing. Magnus Leslie Quarshie
President



Ing. Surv. Francis Kofi Yankey
Councilor



Ing. W. D. Albert Viala
Immediate Past President



Ing. Joseph Omani
Councilor



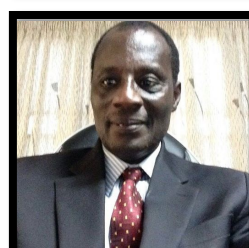
Ing. Festus Odametey
Vice President



Ing. William Dickson
Councilor



Ing. Peter F. Aganu
Hon. Treasurer



Ing. Donald Danquah
Councilor



Ing. (Mrs.) Nana Akua Brenyah Boateng
Hon. Secretary



Ing. Jean Baptista K. Nyaku
Future Leaders Rep.

GCEA COUNCIL UPDATES

- ⇒ **GRA Application for Class Ruling** ; The application for class ruling is still being worked on. GCEA will follow up to ensure the process is on course.
- ⇒ **Engagement with the Ministries and Government Agencies**; The new administration intends to improve engagement with the Ministries and Government agencies. The aim of this outreach is to announce our presence and strengthen relationships with them.
- ⇒ **Professional Fees**; Members should engage and plan to discuss pricing of services.
- ⇒ **Reshuffle of Committee Chairpersons**;

| COMMITTEE | COMMITTEE CHAIR |
|--|--------------------------------------|
| Membership | Ing. Festus Odametey |
| Finance | Ing. Peter F. Aganu |
| Education/Training | Ing. (Mrs) Nana Akua Brenyah Boateng |
| Publication | Ing. Surv. Francis Kofi Yankey |
| Welfare | Ing. Joseph Omani |
| Outreach | Ing. William Dickson |
| Professional Practice and Ethics & Local Content | Ing. Donald Danquah |

- ⇒ **Anti-Corruption Policy**; It has been suggested that Member Firms should have an anti-corruption policy.
- ⇒ **Transformation of Business—Succession Planning**; Member firms are being entreated to develop succession plans to avoid collapse when CEOs or Directors pass.
- ⇒ **Transformation of GCEA**; Member firms have been urged to set-up social media accounts and share some of their projects to enhance visibility.
- ⇒ **Future Leaders**; A variety of activities for FLs which will aid in their raising interest levels in matters involving the association have been discussed.

GCEA ACTIVITIES

GCEA VISITS THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH

On 23rd February 2022, a GCEA delegation led by the President, Ing. Magnus Quarshie together with Ing. Peter Aganu, Ing. (Mrs) Akua Brenyah Boateng and Mrs. Elaine Asare placed a courtesy call to the Ministry of Health as part of the Association's outreach programme.

They met with the Honourable Minister of Health, Dr. Kwaku Agyemang-Manu.

The purpose of this visit was to enhance GCEA's visibility, to propose the development of a sub-regional medical facility for medical tourism in Ghana and to introduce FIDIC Training Courses and Books to the Ministry.

VISITATION OF MEMBER FIRMS

On the 28th of February 2022, GCEA visited KE & T at Baatsonaa and Erapo Designs at East Legon.

GCEA ACTIVITIES CON'T

GCEA DONATES TO FOCOS FOUNDATION

On the 10th of March 2022, GCEA made a donation of ten thousand Ghana Cedis (10,000.00) to Focos Orthopaedic Hospital in response to their request for sponsorship.

The presentation was made by Ing (Mrs) Nana Akua Brenyah Boateng, Honorary Secretary, GCEA and Mrs Elaine Asare.

Special thanks to Delin Consult Ltd, Associated Consultants and MDC for their contributions to make this donation possible.



GCEA ACTIVITIES CON'T

RADIO INTERVIEW AT UNIQUE FM.

The President, Ing. Magnus Quarshie had a radio interview at Unique Fm. It was a science and development series to look at the role of engineering in the day to day lives of the citizens. How engineering contributes to improving the quality of life and the need to promote ethical engineering practices for the good of the people and the country as a whole.

GCEA

UPCOMING EVENTS

WEBINAR ON SUCCESSION PLANNING

There will be a webinar on succession planning in April 2022, presented by the President, Ing Magnus Quarshie.

It is intended to guide member firms through a change in ownership. It will help participants to decide on who takes over their business upon a change in ownership structure.

Date and link to webinar will be communicated.



28TH ANNUAL FIDIC AFRICA
INFRASTRUCTURE CONFERENCE

15-17 MAY 2022 | LAGOS, NIGERIA



www.fidicafrica2022.com

The FIDIC Africa Annual Infrastructure Conference comes off from 15-17 May 2022 in Lagos, Nigeria. Member firms are entreated to send delegates.

HIGHLIGHTS FROM FIDIC CEO'S UPDATE NO.25

THE SITUATION IN UKRAINE

The past three weeks has been very traumatic and difficult for the people of Ukraine and no doubt their many friends and relatives in many countries around the world. The depth of the impact of war is felt on life and death, on health and physical safety, on mental health and wellbeing, on feelings and emotions and deeply on families and relationships, so core to our culture and our world. Its impact on the community, cities, the environment and very importantly peoples' homes and the infrastructure they depend on is appalling and frightening. These impacts will stay with those affected for the rest of their lives.

The Russian invasion of Ukraine has also been disturbing and upsetting for many countries and governments around the world and their peoples, particularly those in Europe and those who have had the lived experience of war, invasion and occupation.

As we are seeing in the news, many Russians are also very upset by this invasion. FIDIC hopes that the war in Ukraine will end very soon and peace and sovereignty will be restored to this great nation.

The situation highlights the dreadful impacts of military action on human lives, families, communities, institutions, governments and more broadly on humanity itself. It also brings into sharp focus the need for and dependence our societies have on critical infrastructure, trade, and resources. The cost of the war in the Ukraine and the associated economic impacts are being and will be felt by hundreds of millions of people for

The FIDIC board met on 10-11 March and discussed what position FIDIC should take in respect of the war in Ukraine. I wanted to share the results of our deliberations with all our stakeholders at this critical time.

FIDIC BOARD UPDATE

Apart from the situation in Ukraine, the FIDIC board also discussed a number of other issues and these are highlighted

below.

Board members received an update on the plans for the **FIDIC Global Infrastructure Conference** which is due to take place in September 2022 in Geneva. Members discussed the format, structure and business model for the conference and made decisions to adopt a combined in-person and virtual conference hybrid solution by investing in a new digital conference platform to enhance the Zoom system used over the last two years.

The board also **approved the terms of reference for two FIDIC advisory councils** - the FIDIC Future Leaders Advisory Council and the Directors and Secretaries Advisory Council. These advisory councils will advise the board on key issues going forward related to future leaders and FIDIC's member associations and upgrading these bodies to an advisory role is an indication of the importance that FIDIC places on their work.

Board members also **approved a new working Committee, the Digital Transformation Committee** and a restructured **Business Practice Leadership Committee (BPLC)** which would replace the previously known Business Practice Committee. The new BPLC will be more strategic focused and operate in a similar manner to the Contract Committee, with a clear mandate to establish proactive task groups to deliver guidance notes on issues such as finance, marketing, health and safety, risk liability and insurance, procurement, quality etc.

Full details of the changes will be unfolded over the coming months to ensure an effective implementation process.

In the contracts area, board members also discussed and **approved the terms of reference for two new FIDIC task groups to work on new subcontract forms and a handbook for practitioners.**

The board also received an **update on the FIDIC Climate Change Charter** and the measurement of FIDIC's own carbon footprint as part of the commitment made towards achieving the strategic development goals and the net zero agenda.

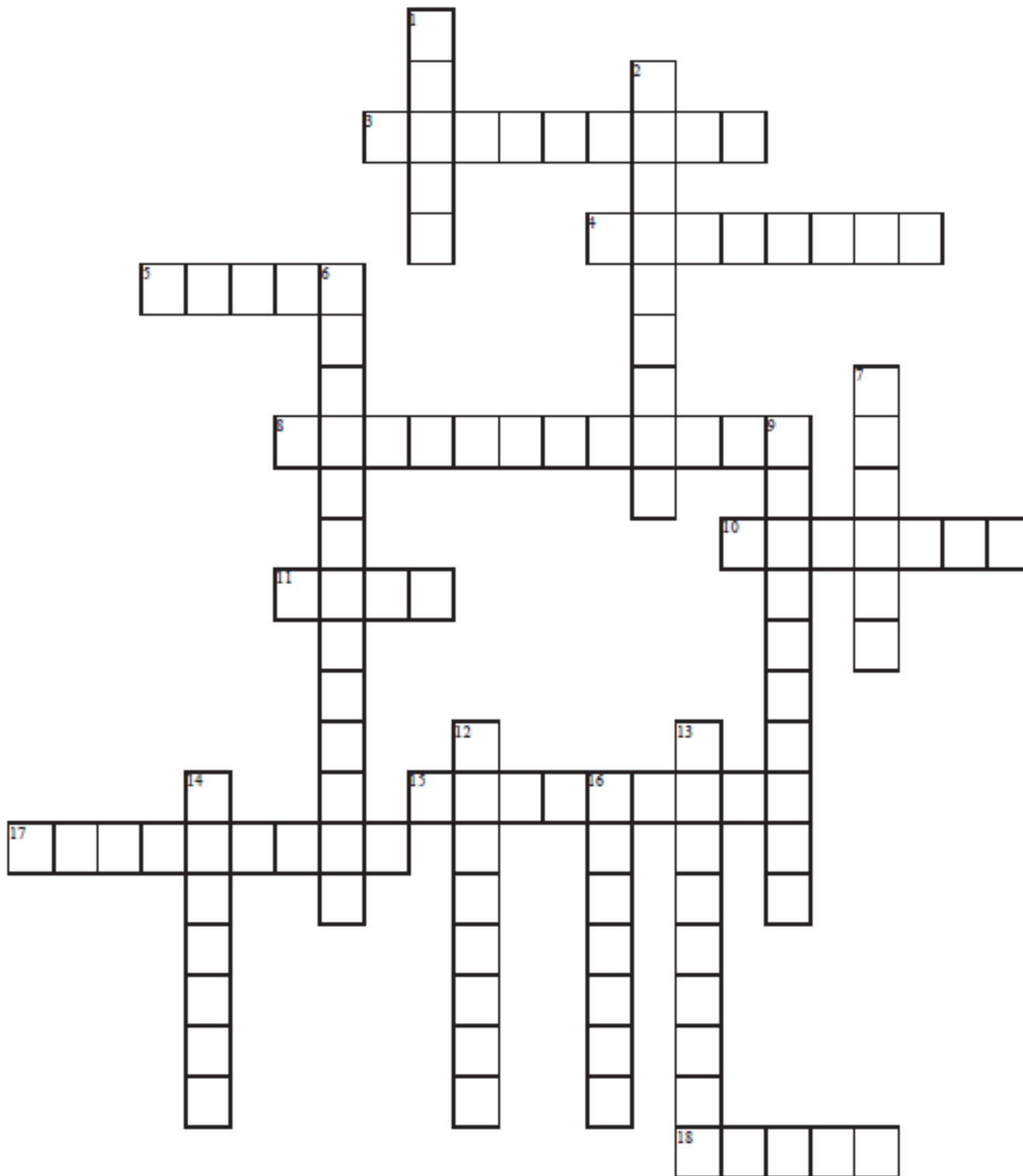
FIDIC-AFRICA CONFERENCE

The FIDIC Africa Infrastructure Conference is one of the largest networking events for African consulting engineers. The 28th edition of the conference, entitled Infrastructure Development in Africa, takes place from 15-17 May 2022 at the Eko Hotel in Lagos, Nigeria and will bring together leading global players and partners in the infrastructure and consulting engineering sector to create innovative sustainable solutions and business opportunities. The conference will discuss a range of issues, including: Global partnerships with African Consultancies for Infrastructure Delivery; Sustainability and Maintenance of Infrastructure: Exploring Diverse Opportunities, Infrastructure Delivery: Best Practices towards Enhanced Sustainable Implementation, Challenges and Opportunities in Infrastructure Development in Africa, the impact of the Covid-19 Pandemic on Infrastructure Development and much more.



Dr. Nelson Ogunshakin
OBE—FIDIC CEO

CROSSWORD PUZZLE No.4



CROSSWORD PUZZLE No.4

Across

- 3. a US Federal Government program designed to fund the cleanup of toxic wastes.
- 4. the action or process of throwing away or getting rid of something.
- 5. poisonous
- 8. a large metallic vessel for holding gases or liquids.
- 10. an act of making a place tidy.
- 11. penalty.
- 15. something dangerous or risky.
- 17. the act of doing something that is not allowed by a law or rule.
- 18. a place for storing rubbish.

Down

- 1. to put in action again.
- 2. of or relating to a city or town.
- 6. the act of making something impure by exposure or adding polluting substances.
- 7. waste matter carried by municipal pipes.
- 9. any discarded or abandoned materials.
- 12. a site for disposal of solid waste in which refuse is buried between layers of dirt.
- 13. occupants in a dwelling.
- 14. refuse as from a household.
- 16. convert into reusable materials.

STEPS:

- 1.SOLVE THE PUZZLE
- 2.SEND ANSWER(S) TO

GCEASOCIALS@GMAIL.COM

- 3.WIN FANTASTIC PRIZES!!!!

HINT: WASTE



GCEA
GHANA CONSULTING
ENGINEERS ASSOCIATION
EST. 1973



The Ghana Consulting Engineers Association (GCEA) is a Member Association of FIDIC (The International Federation of Consulting Engineers) and GAMA (Group of African Member Associations of FIDIC).



The Association is charged with promoting and developing the Consulting Engineering industry in Ghana including dissemination of information and resources of interest to its members.



The objectives and purpose of the Association are to

1. Promote international standards of consulting engineering practices locally.
2. Assist members to achieve high professional, business and economic standards.
3. Act in the professional interest of its members by creating an enabling environment for the practice and delivery of quality and sustainable products and services.

In addition, GCEA also organises Technical Sessions, Workshops and Exhibitions.

GCEA has the exclusive right to run FIDIC Accredited Training and distribute FIDIC manuals in Ghana.

Are you a member? Sign up today!



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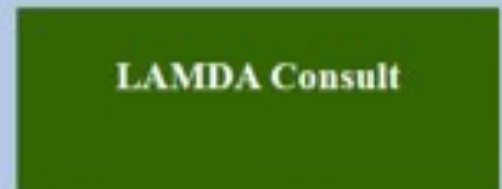
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Membership is open to all Consulting Firms in the country. Staff of Member Firms who want to join any of the committees can send a mail or call the numbers below.



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MFs are being encouraged to set-up SOCIAL MEDIA accounts to help publicize the Association and the Ghanaian Engineering Community at large.