

Establishment of a Student Community Engagement Program Initiative

Presented by Prof. Samuel Owusu-Ababio

From Kwabena Kobi

1. GhiPEN seems to have so much potential to alleviate poverty in Ghana. Good move. @In. Ababio. *I agree, we will get there!*

From senanu

2. Make the initiation phase a bit informal so communities can apply. Also suggest leveraging social media to spread the word (one structures are setup)

I agree that there should be some flexibility in the initiation phase to draw community interest. After a while, an application process will become necessary for communities to demonstrate that they can commit some resources to the project development and maintenance phases. Experience has shown that if communities do not have a stake in a project, they do not tend to maintain or care for it.

From senanu

3. You could even crowdsource projects (open call - say on facebook)?

Certainly! It is one of the easiest ways to raise money for projects

From Del

4. Please when will GhiPEN kickstart? It's is a great initiative i pray it see the light of day soon and doesnt remain in the pipeline for too long so that Ghana can benefit soon.

The GhIE is committed to engaging students at the tertiary institutions in community development, that's why they requested this proposal to be developed. I suppose that it will kick off in 2021 if we have COVID-19 behind us. In the meantime, the institution will be doing the background work to prepare for the kickoff of this important initiative.

From Ing. Abraham Steele-Dadzie

5. Please does GhiPEN fit into any national policy framework or its your personal idea that is to deviate from existing initiatives?

At the present time, GhiPEN is not linked to any national policy framework. It is going to be run by the GhIE

From Alexander

6. Prof Ababio, KNUST used to run Practical Training for the students. Is this program something similar to what you are talking about.

The **Ghana Infrastructure Conference (GIC 2020) Virtual Edition** was organized by the Ghana Transportation Professionals (GTPF - <http://gtpf.org/>), ACE -Regional Transport Research and Education Centre Kumasi (TRECK - <https://treck.knust.edu.gh/>) and the Ghana Institution of Engineering (GhIE - <https://ghie.org.gh/>) in partnership with the following ministries of the Republic of Ghana – Aviation, Transport, Roads & Highways, Railways Development



I am not familiar with the KNUST practical training program, but this initiative is also going to provide hands-on experience to students by using science, technology, and engineering principles to address real world problems faced by communities.

Comments

From Peter

Consider communication with Rotary International or Rotary Foundation for partnership in these projects.

This initiative is going to be led by the GhIE; your suggestion will be passed on to them.

From Bertha Johnson : Ghipen is a well thought of initiative. Good work done.

From Del : Thank you for a great presentation Sir. Very good initiative Prof

From Michael Tsormanya : That was a good presentation

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