

# **TG29 - Construction in Developing Countries**



## **Visit To East Africa**

From 20th - 23rd February 1999 the CIB Secretary General visited Uganda where he took part in a Workshop for invited representatives from all branches of the Local Construction Industry and of Academia.

Also present were Organisations and Governmental Agencies involved in Building and Construction. The purpose of both the visit and the workshop was twofold:

- o to launch and generate local support for the recently established Uganda Centre for Construction Industry Development and Affordable Housing - UCCIDAH
- o to promote CIB to potential new Members in a part of the world, which is ready to enter into more active participation in CIB's activities.

In addition to a number of local contacts, first contacts were established with the World Bank. The recognition that there is a certain overlapping interest as concerns Building and Construction in Africa and other developing regions in the world, hopefully will prove to be a basis for follow-up activities, which may result in a future collaboration.

UCCIDAH has several exciting projects in the pipeline, one of the most promising of which is the publication of an International Journal on Construction in Developing Countries on behalf of Task Group TG29 - Construction in Developing Countries. More about plans for this Journal can be found in the [Report of the Programme Committee Meeting in Gainesville.](#)

The CIB Membership will of course be kept informed as developments proceed.



At the Workshop (from right to left) : Arch. Okema James Esau, Assoc. Prof. Dr. Badni N. Kiggundu (Head of Civil Engineering Dept), Mr. Harris (World Bank), Dr. Wim Bakens and Dr. Barnabas Nawangwe (Head of Architecture Department).

### **Best Practices Research Projects**

TG29 is co-ordinating three international research projects on aspects of construction industry development. The intention is to prepare a Best Practice book on each of these aspects. It is envisaged that these books will be published by CIB.

Each Best Practice book will comprise a series of papers on the topic; each relating to a particular developing country. A set of guidelines will be prepared by the Coordinator of each Best Practice research project and provided to contributing authors in order to ensure an uniform approach by the contributors.

The topics, and brief outlines of the Best Practice books, as well as the names and addresses of the Coordinators are given below. If you are interested in contributing to any of the Best Practice books,

please contact the Coordinator concerned by the date indicated in each case.

- Managing Construction Industry Development  
Coordinator: George Ofori  
School of Building & Real Estate, National University of Singapore, 10 Kent Ridge Crescent, SINGAPORE 119260, Fax: +(065) 775 5502,  
E-mail: [bemofori@nus.edu.sg](mailto:bemofori@nus.edu.sg)
- Role of the Informal Sector of the Construction Industries in Developing Countries  
Coordinator: Dr Jill Wells  
School of Construction Management and Economics, South Bank University, Wandsworth Road, SW8 2JZ London, United Kingdom
- Practices for Broadening Work Opportunities for Local Construction Enterprises  
Coordinator: Mr Kesogukewele M.I.M. Msita  
Executive Secretary, National Construction Council, Mansfield Street, P.O. Box 70039, Dar Es Salaam, Tanzania, Fax: +255.51.118887,  
E-mail: [msita@raha.com](mailto:msita@raha.com)

Further details on two of the three Best Practice Books follow.

## **Managing Construction Industry Development**

### **The Project**

The construction industry everywhere faces problems. These difficulties are more varied and more severe in the developing countries. Some governments have instituted measures to tackle these problems. Among these is the formation of organisations to plan for, and administer the continuous development of the industry. These organisations have taken different forms in various countries. Results from their establishment have also varied.

The international research project on the "Management of Construction Industry Development" will document the experiences and prospects of organisations charged with managing the development of construction industries. These may be separate, dedicated agencies such as the Construction Industry Development Boards of Singapore and Malaysia, or the National Construction Council of Tanzania. They may also be similar agencies which are to be formed, such as the one under consideration in South Africa. Moreover, they may be departments or units within, or working under, Ministries responsible for construction.

### **Contributions**

Contributions to the international research project will be in the form of academically rigorous but practice-oriented papers by individual authors or groups of authors. Each of the papers will take as a subject for discussion, the construction industry development organisation in a particular country. The papers will analyse the objectives, achievements, problems, plans and future challenges of the organisation concerned.

The papers may analyse particular aspects of one organisation. For example, they may review its success and continued relevance. Thus, there can be more than one paper on any particular organisation.

Each paper should be a maximum of 20 pages long, in single-spaced format in Times Roman 12 font. Each paper should include an appropriate list of references.

### **Suggested Contents of Contributions**

Summary of Paper

## Introduction and Background

- (i) economic background and role of construction in the economy;
- (ii) brief description of nature of nation's construction industry and its performance;
- (iii) reasons for formation of construction industry development organisation;
- (iv) legal basis and functions as in legislation;
- (v) aims and objectives of organisation

## Organisation structure and tasks of key components of organisation

- (i) organisation structure;
- (ii) main tasks and activities of various sections;
- (iii) relationship with other government organisations;
- (iv) relationship with industry;
- (v) international links and alliances;
- (vi) funding and administration

## Key activities of organisation

- (i) activities relating directly to construction industry development;
- (ii) other activities

## Achievements, weaknesses and problems of organisation

- (i) main achievements;
- (ii) major weaknesses and problems

## Future challenges and plans of organisation

- (i) challenges;
- (ii) plans of the organisation

## Conclusion

- (i) recommendations: possible initiatives;
- (ii) prerequisites;
- (iii) evaluation of proposals;
- (iv) conclusion

## References

### **Key Dates**

Submission of First Draft of Paper by 30 June 1999

Comments for Revision of Paper to be Received by 15 July 1999

Submission of Revised Paper by 31 August 1999

Publication of Best Practices Document by 31 December 1999

### **Contact Person**

If you wish to contribute to, please contact:

George Ofori

School of Building & Real Estate, National University of Singapore, 10 Kent Ridge Crescent, SINGAPORE 119260.

## **Practices for Broadening Work Opportunities for Local Construction Industries**

### **The Project**

The overall volume of construction in most developing countries fluctuates considerably over time. Moreover, during periods of low demand, the small and medium-sized enterprises (both consultants and contractors) often suffer disproportionately severe declines in workload. This has an adverse effect on these firms. It tends to erode their built-up capacity and, in some cases, threatens their survival. Some countries have taken measures to address this situation with the view to improving the access of the local construction firms to work opportunities, thus enhancing their prospects for growth and development. However, the objectives, experiences and results have varied.

The research project on "Broadening Work Opportunities for Local Construction Industries" will document the experiences of developing countries in their effort to ensure that all construction organisations, especially the small and medium-sized ones, are able to compete for and win their fair share of the total volume of construction demand.

### **Contributions**

Contributions to the project will be in the form of rigorous practice-oriented papers by individuals or groups, each taking as a subject for discussion, the initiatives made to provide work opportunities for local construction enterprises in the country concerned. The papers will analyse the objectives, achievements, problems, plans and future challenges of any initiatives taken by governments to specifically provide work for local construction firms (both consultants and contractors). They will discuss the situation with respect to the distribution of market share among categories of firms (classified by citizenship of ownership as well as firm size). They will consider the effect on the development of local construction enterprises and propose initiatives which can improve the situation.

Other papers may not necessarily be on particular countries, but may focus on an aspect(s) of work opportunities.

### **Procurement Policies**

Describe procurement policies which have been, or are being pursued in fostering the development of the local CI by way of providing more work opportunities. Coverage may include the following:

- Types of procurement methods and the relative importance of each  
Use customary terms such as the Traditional Arrangement, Project Management, Management Contracting and Design-and-Build.
- Registration and classification of contractors and consultants (if any)  
Purpose of, and criteria for, registration. Classification or categorisation of registered contractors; its effect on procurement
- Affirmative Procurement Policies  
Type of affirmative procurement policies. Objectives and rationale of the policies. Effect on work opportunities, in terms of promoting competitiveness. Achievements, constraints, remedies and possible lessons. All arrangements for deliberately favouring or assisting/supporting sections of the CI, for example, local contractors, could be discussed under this subsection and may include: reservation of work; tendering preferences for local firms, work packaging, different forms of associations such as joint ventures and subcontracting, development and adoption of appropriate contract procedures and documents.
- Role of key players  
Describe the role played by: government, donor agencies, multilateral funding agencies,

private sector (including professional and trade associations), and foreign contractors and consultants in providing or facilitating the availability and accessibility to such work opportunities.

- Recommendations

Provide an evaluation of possible initiatives that are capable of enhancing the provision of work opportunities to the local CI, and prerequisites for their success. Discuss major future challenges in these regards.

- Lessons and Conclusions

Highlight key lessons for other developing countries from the experience of the subject country in providing work opportunities to local construction enterprises. Present key conclusions from the study.

### **Contact Person (also for Guidelines for Authors)**

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