BOLGATANGA POLYTECHNIC
(Building Technology & Civil Engineering Departments)

Our Ref: 
Your Ref:

Post Office Box 767
Bolgatanga
U.E.R. – Ghana

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING (MOU)

Between

Building Technology & Civil Engineering Departments, Bolgatanga Polytechnic

and

Nubian Vault Association - Ghana

PREAMBLE

This Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) is entered into by and between Bolgatanga Polytechnic, Building Technology & Civil Engineering Departments, hereinafter referred to as 'the academic institution', with address as P.O. Box 767, Bolgatanga and Nubian Vault Association hereinafter referred to as the social entrepreneurship expert organization with registered address as P.O. Box 196, Bolgatanga. The academic institution and the social entrepreneurship expert are referred to collectively as 'Parties' and individually as 'Party.'

1. Purpose

The Parties recognize the benefits to be derived from collaborating, cooperating and interacting for promoting academic and social entrepreneurship synergies.
The purpose of this MOU is to define the collaborative framework to develop and implement innovative academic training methodologies allowing for the development of the emerging sector of sustainable construction.

Therefore, the Parties aim at fostering a collaborative framework between the academic institution and the social entrepreneurship expert organization with the intent of benefiting from each other’s initiatives and working procedures and to promote a learning network among the students, the lecturers, the mason trainers reinforced by the social entrepreneurship expert organization and other actors of the sustainable construction sector.

2. Scope

This MOU sets forth the intentions of the Parties for increased collaboration, cooperation and interaction and does not create any legally binding commitments. If the Parties later agree to undertake specific joint projects with legally binding obligations, they will develop separate written agreements for such projects, setting out each Party’s contributions, deliverables and budgets. It is also understood that the Building Technology & Civil Engineering Departments operates within the regulations and rules of the Bolgatanga Polytechnic and for that matter any works or activities undertaken in this MOU must be in conformity with the rules and regulations of Bolgatanga Polytechnic.

The parties intend to undertake an effort to develop a pilot training curriculum for the construction sector actors, about the “Nubian Vault” technique, in articulation with this technique’s market dissemination methodology.

The major guidelines for this curriculum will be:

- The reliance on a dual training methodology, including theoretical (in-class) and practical (on-site) training, in order to optimize the employability of the students.

- The development of strategies to integrate the students in a dynamic exchange with actors of the construction sector and of the social entrepreneurship sector. This will allow them to become not only operational actors but also facilitators of the Nubian Vault market.

- The objective that these students become themselves in the long-term trainers of technicians and/or other actors (e.g. masons) in order to rapidly increase the potential of the sustainable construction sector. A partnership with Vocational Training Centers can be developed within this framework.

The role of the partners will be defined in a project document with an operational plan to reach this purpose. The pilot project will be implemented as an example having it’s
replication as strong objective (at other scales, with other partners, in other geographical areas...).

Specifically to:

1. Undertake research in the area of pedagogical methods for teaching sustainable construction techniques sustainable and affordable housing construction through collaboration between staff of the two Parties.

2. Jointly undertake pedagogical training projects that ensure mutual benefit of the two Parties and establish innovative training programs.

3. Provide mutual access to training methodologies for the purposes of fundamental research by staff of both Parties and for the training of students of the Building Technology & Civil Engineering Departments.

3. Cost

Each Party will be responsible for its own cost in connection with all matters to collaborations under this MOU. Where possible and appropriate, the Parties may also seek funding for collaborations from related agencies.


4.1. As stated above, any specific joint projects with legally binding obligations will be set forth in separate written agreements.

4.2. Treatment of intellectual property rights developed through collaborations under this MOU will be determined between the Parties through mutual consultation and separate written agreements on a case-by-case basis.

5. Confidentiality

The parties agree that there is no intention to share any confidential or proprietary information in any collaboration under this MOU. If either Party wishes to disclose information it considers to be confidential or proprietary to the other Party, the Parties will enter into a written non-disclosure agreement.
6. Duration

It is understood that this MOU has no specific date of expiration, it is however effective from the date of final signature. It may be modified by mutual written agreement by the Parties. This MOU may be terminated by either party upon six (6) months advance written notice.

The Parties to this Memorandum of Understanding hereby confirm their agreement to its terms by the following signatures:

Building Technology/
Civil Engineering Departments

By Dr. Edward Nand
Dean of school of Engineering,
Bolgatanga Polytechnic,

Date .....................

Witness by ..................
Dr. Callistus Tengan
HOD, Building Technology
Bolgatanga Polytechnic

Date .....................

Nubian Vault Association

By Thomas Granier
Director General and co-founder
Nubian Vault Association

Date .....................

Witness by ..................
Mr. Cabral A. Adagewine
Production Manager, Nubian Vault Association

Date .....................