



ISSUE NO.1 - NOVEMBER 2024

YOUR GATEWAY TO PROFESSIONAL EXCELLENCE AND CONNECTION

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CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER's

Message



Dear Members and Colleagues,

As we release this edition of the ACEZ magazine, I am filled with immense pride for what we, as an Association, continue to accomplish together. This magazine serves as more than just a publication; it is a testament to the expertise, resilience, and innovation that define the consulting engineering profession in Zambia. Our industry's role has never been more vital as we address complex challenges in infrastructure, energy, water management, and beyond.

ACEZ remains committed to supporting our members in advancing these essential projects and initiatives, empowering us to shape Zambia's future through sustainable and impactful engineering solutions. This publication is also a platform for us to share our knowledge, showcase significant projects, and advocate for issues that demand our collective attention.

I want to thank each contributor to this edition for their insightful perspectives and dedication. Your articles reflect the diversity and depth of talent within our association, demonstrating the strength of a unified voice for consulting engineers across the nation. Together, we set the standards for excellence and inspire a generation that will carry our mission forward.

Please enjoy this issue, and may it inspire and inform your work as we continue to make strides toward a better tomorrow for Zambia.

Kind regards

Chetuwa Serkala Chulu

Chief Executive Officer. ACEZ



Zambia's energy sector has been facing significant challenges, mainly due to its heavy reliance on hydroelectric power and unpredictable climate changes, especially droughts. Enter the Energy Forum for Africa (EFFA) – a crucial platform that's stepping up to catalyse sustainable energy solutions! #ItsPossible, is EFFA's vision to make Zambia energy sufficient by 2030.

A Call to Action

EFFA sounded the alarm, calling for urgent action to tackle Zambia's and Africa's energy challenges while exploring sustainable solutions for the future. From August 14th to 16th, 2024, Lusaka hosted the inaugural EFFA Conference, themed "Investment Opportunities in the Energy Sector in Zambia and Africa." EFFA provided a platform to streamline communication and foster collaborations among key stakeholders, including developers, investors, financial institutions, energy traders, and capital market experts. Eng. Hope Chanda, Founder & CEO of Mimshach Engineering Consultants, organized the event, underscoring the significance of the energy sector for economic growth.

Power Packed Attendance

The EFFA Conference was a melting pot of over 350 delegates, including industry leaders, policymakers, researchers, academicians, private sector representatives, independent power producers (IPPs), and leaders from financial institutions, mining companies, legal firms, banks, energy utilities, and traders. Innovators from across Africa and beyond united to tackle energy challenges head-on and uncover opportunities.



Key Highlights at the EFFA Conference 2024

Sparking New Ideas

At the EFFA conference, speakers presented innovative transmission line development models aimed at easing infrastructure constraints by involving private sector players. Insights were shared by experts from International Finance Corporation (IFC), African Development Bank (AfDB), Copperbelt Energy Corporation (CEC), Africa GreenCo, and ZESCO. Additionally, the Southern African Power Pool (SAPP) announced the upcoming approval of a transmission wheeling tariff, which could attract more investment by allowing generators and traders to pay for transmission.



Renewable Energy Spotlight

The EFFA conference highlighted impressive solar, wind, and thermal renewable energy projects. Genesis Energy introduced a 71-Megawatt (MW) hybrid solar and wind project. KNBE announced a 100 MW PV Solar Plant in Chisamba, partnered with Africa GreenCo and Standard Bank. CEC showcased its 136 MW Itimpi Solar Power Plant, funded by green bond financing. Kalahari GeoEnergy plans to develop an 18 MW thermal power plant, and Upepo Energy, along with KGRTC, are adding to the wind energy mix with projects of 150 MW and 7.5 MW respectively. These and other showcased initiatives are crucial for a sustainable and resilient energy future for Zambia.

Capital Market Magic

EFFA delved into how capital markets can be leveraged to secure funding for energy projects. Securing feasibility finance is a major hurdle, causing many viable projects to stall. Capital market experts explored/ are exploring ways to mobilize these crucial funds. Capital markets could play a pivotal role in financing energy initiatives when structured effectively, especially with intermediaries trading on power pool markets.

Capacity Building Webinars

In collaboration with Africa GreenCo, the African Capacity Building Foundation (ACBF), Invest Africa, and the Africa Infrastructure Development Association (AfIDA), a series of capacity-building webinars were launched at the EFFA Conference. These sessions are designed to equip key players with practical knowledge on how to navigate energy projects in complex financial and regulatory landscapes. Three webinars have already been conducted: IPP Project Finance, Regulatory and Licensing Requirements, and Financing Renewable Energy Projects for IPPs.

Innovative Pathways

Among the innovative ideas discussed was the shift away from sovereign guarantees and the emergence of energy intermediaries to develop bankable projects. A major challenge contributing to the energy deficit is the slow pace of making projects bankable. As a concrete step forward, the EFFA conference launched capacity-building webinars aimed at equipping developers with the skills to structure projects effectively and make them bankable.



Formation of Task Force Committees

To keep the momentum going, three specialized task force committees focusing on technical, financial, and policy aspects were formed. Their mission is to ensure that the resolutions and insights from the EFFA conference are implemented and monitored effectively.

Future-Proofing Zambia's Energy Sector

To avert future crises, Zambia must diversify its energy sources. Key steps include:



Investing in Renewable Energy: Expanding solar and wind projects to reduce dependency on hydropower.



Implementing Net Metering: Encouraging consumers to generate and feed excess electricity back into the grid.



Strengthening International Collaborations: Enhancing partnerships with neighbouring countries for power trading and grid interconnections.



Regulatory Reforms: Adopting policies that promote competition and attract private sector investments.

By taking these measures, Zambia can build a resilient and sustainable energy sector capable of withstanding the challenges posed by climate change and economic fluctuations. The EFFA initiative has laid a strong foundation, and ongoing efforts will be crucial in securing a bright energy future for Zambia and Africa.

Engineering Ethics: Standing for What Is Right in Zambia

Eng. Andrew M. Singosho ASD Engineers and Project Managers Ltd.

Engineering ethics form the backbone of our profession. Built on core values like honesty, integrity, and a commitment to public welfare, these principles are meant to guide us, especially when the path gets challenging. But in Zambia, where economic pressures and political realities often intrude, it's sometimes hard for consulting engineers to stay true to these ideals without compromise. The temptation to cut corners can creep in, especially in a market where survival isn't guaranteed. Yet, if we allow these pressures to dilute our standards, the results are inevitably felt by the communities who rely on our work. So, it is up to us to keep our focus on doing the right thing, finding ways to balance professional principles with the practical realities of our environment.

The Zambian Ethical Landscape: Between Survival and Integrity

In Zambia, being a consulting engineer often feels like trying to navigate the dry spillways of the Kariba Dam—where once-strong currents have slowed to a trickle, mirroring the ethical dilemmas that arise when resources are scarce. Just as Kariba struggles with drought, we sometimes face situations where our financial survival competes directly with our duty to uphold solid engineering standards. The pressure to compromise is real, but the cost of giving in is even greater, as compromised professional delivery and a damaged professional reputation can harm both the public and the profession. We, as a collective body, need to uphold rigorous standards and transparency to ensure that our projects stand the test of time.

Consider the frequent flooding that affects several communities in Zambia each year. Poorly planned drainage systems and unmaintained infrastructure lead to devastating losses for these communities, who are left vulnerable to the destructive effects of seasonal rains. This example highlights the urgent need for comprehensive engineering oversight in projects impacting public welfare. It's a stark reminder that cutting corners today can lead to costly consequences tomorrow. When consulting engineers maintain high standards and engage in thorough, transparent planning, we not only prevent such outcomes but also build public trust in our profession.

And then there are the Constituency Development Fund (CDF) projects, which too often proceed without proper engineering involvement. When infrastructure like schools, health facilities, and roads is left to chance, the outcome is poor construction quality that deteriorates quickly. For lasting, safe public structures, engineering expertise should be a foundational part of every project, from planning through to execution.

Upholding Standards: The Role of ACEZ

The Association of Consulting Engineers of Zambia (ACEZ) is instrumental in setting and maintaining ethical standards for the industry. The ACEZ Duties and Rules outline clear expectations, emphasising a commitment to public safety, project quality, and integrity (<u>https://www.acez.co.zm/about-us/duties-and-rules</u>).

Within ACEZ, the Ethics & Disciplinary Committee which is tasked with upholding these principles, addressing ethical concerns as they arise and holding members accountable to the ACEZ code of conduct. This isn't just about following the rules; it is about nurturing a culture where every engineer feels a responsibility to their profession and community.

By engaging actively with ACEZ's committees, members reinforce a shared commitment to integrity. When we all adhere to ACEZ's standards and the processes for ethical oversight, we strengthen both our profession and our reputation as reliable experts. This collective commitment helps ensure that engineering in Zambia reflects the high standard of quality and responsibility the public expects from us.

Perception vs. Reality: Changing the Narrative

As engineers in Zambia, we have all encountered the public perception that our work is sometimes unreliable. People often joke about roads that seem to crumble as soon as the rainy season begins or buildings that require repairs almost as soon as they're completed. While these comments can come across as light-hearted, they often reflect a deep-seated frustration. Unfortunately, past instances where professional standards were overlooked have left the public with the impression that Zambian engineers cannot be trusted to deliver quality work consistently.

Changing this perception will take effort, but it is possible—and it starts with us. We need to hold ourselves and each other accountable, refusing to endorse or overlook substandard work, no matter the external pressures we face. It also means pushing for greater involvement in all phases of public projects, particularly those funded by resources like the CDF. By ensuring that these projects have the proper engineering oversight, we can show the public that our profession stands for quality, safety, and responsibility

A Commitment to Ethical Engineering

Our role as engineers goes beyond simply designing structures or infrastructure; it is about building trust within the communities we serve. Upholding engineering ethics means that every project we work on should prioritise safety, quality, and the public's well-being. We must not only demand better practices in our work but also lead by example, showing that our expertise is essential, not optional. When ethics take precedence over expedience, we lift the standing of our profession and contribute to a stronger, more resilient Zambia.

A Vision for the Future

In conclusion, let's strive to be engineers who stand firmly for what is right, creating a legacy that future generations will be proud of. Engineering ethics isn't merely about safeguarding our reputation; it is about serving the people of Zambia and ensuring that the infrastructure we build today continues to serve future generations.

ACEZ members have the power to change the course and restore their place in society as trusted stewards of Zambia's growth. By embracing the ACEZ code of conduct and holding ourselves to the highest ethical standards, we reinforce the essential role of engineers in shaping our nation's future. Together, let's create a Zambia where every structure we build is a testament to quality, resilience, and integrity.

Soil Nailing as an Alternative Reinforcement Construction Process on Road Embankments

Eng. Richard John Ndhlovu

Introduction

Major highway roads predominantly have sections requiring an embankment to be constructed using various suitable materials. These embankments would either be reinforced with stone, gabions, concrete, or approved gravel materials. In certain cases, these embankments would have approved grass planted to enhance and improve their erosion control protection processes in addition to providing environmental aesthetics to the road precinct. This is an account of a road rehabilitation project that was conducted in Durban, South Africa along the coastal areas.

The Project

The project mainly involved the rehabilitation of four major existing embankment sections along the main highway that were eroded after a massive storm which occurred in the area and left several built environment infrastructures in a deplorable state



Soil Nailing into an Existing Gabion Retaining Structure

Construction Approach

Technical Approach

By definition, soil nailing is the act of constructing a column of grout that is pumped into the ground to provide lateral support to an embankment/slope structure. The intention of the grouted column-shaped structural member is to transfer loads laterally into the substrata.

Drilling the Soil nail

A percussion DTH hammer with a 110mm diameter hammer was used to drill holes through an existing gabion basket with a 110mm steel sleeve inserted inside the hole. Once in the anchor position, the mast was plumbed to the 10° inclination. The drilling commenced using a percussion hammer with a temporary casing to penetrate the Gabion wall. Inclination checks were made in perpendicular directions (x and y axis) during the first four (4) meters of drilling, every metre and thereafter every 3m using a spirit level. A hole with a diameter of 120mm was drilled through all material down to the required depth asper the design solution.

Installation of the Soil nail and grouting

After drilling the hole and extracting the rods, a PVC grout/blowpipe was used to blow out the drilled hole to remove all soil that was left after drilling. A steel encasement used as a temporary protection in case of collapsing of the holes. The drill rig was positioned over the hole again to assist in installing the soil nail to the full depth of the hole together with spacers. A 1.5m long PVC pipe was placed over the rod to create the free length. The drill rig was then moved to pile positions while the grouting team connected the grout pipe to start the grouting process. During the grouting process (Bottom Up process) any water or spoil was displaced/replaced using non-shrink grout. A 25% to 35% grout/spoil mixture wastage occurred during the construction of the nail. The grout/spoil was contained within the construction area



Quality Control

Quality control was paramount during the drilling operation, installation of nails, and grouting. Control sheets were used to maintain quality assurance inspections and acceptance of the operations. During the testing of the nails, "pull-out tests" were conducted at 25% to 150% applied loading with a 5-minute holding time on all tests with post-tension up to 50kN. Grout was accepted at 30MPa.

Main Challenges

The unexpected presence of groundwater coming through the drill holes and the collapsing of the existing gabion baskets delayed the work.



🏈 PHOTO FOCUS

STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT

The crucial role in fostering collaboration and mutual understanding between businesses and their stakeholders cannot be overlooked. As ACEZ, we understand that aligning with the needs of stakeholders and companies can help us to make more informed decisions, reduce conflicts, and strengthen our social responsibility to operate. Throughout the year, the Association has engaged stakeholders to not only demonstrate corporate social responsibility but to also foster long-term partnerships that drive mutual benefits and resilience in a rapidly changing environment.



ACEZ courtesy call to the Minister of Infrastructure Housing and Urban Development to discuss the need to engage local Consultants in all stages of infrastructure projects



ACEZ courtesy call to ZESCO to discuss how ACEZ can collaborate on upcoming projects, as well as build internal capacity through training.

STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT

🏈 PHOTO FOCUS



ACEZ courtesy call to Minister of Water Development and Sanitation to discuss actionable ways that government and Consultants can work best together to solve pertinent water issues Zambia.



Manish Kothari, FIDIC Board Member pays ACEZ a courtesy call.



ACEZ visit to Permanent Secretary of Ministry, Infrastructure Housing and Urban Development.



His Excellency Lt Gen Mathew Edward Mkingule, High Commissioner of the United Republic of Tanzania pays a courtesy call to the Association of Consulting Engineers of Zambia to discuss possible infrastructure development collaborations.

🏈 PHOTO FOCUS

CAPACITY BUILDING

Capacity building is essential for addressing challenges affecting the industry. ACEZ is committed to promoting the continuous education and professional development of engineers and organizations in order to enhance technical expertise, promote interdisciplinary collaboration, and improve decision-making processes. To achieve this in 2024, ACEZ introduced new practical training courses and expanded their training beyond Lusaka. The Association also participated in STEM programs, facilitated capacity building workshops and formed strategic partnerships with industry allies to promote the business interests of its members.



ACEZ hosts a Business Workshop for built environment professionals to promote portfolio diversification and explore viable business opportunities in the industry.



ACEZ joins the the Girl Guides Association of Zambia to launch the STEM Girls Campaign.



ACEZ forms part of the judging panel at the YESS GIRLS CAN DO STEM Fair hosted by Girl Guides Association of Zambia

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CAPACITY BUILDING

🏈 PHOTO FOCUS



ACEZ facilitates its first ever Consulting Engineering Business Seminar for Future Leaders.



ACEZ and RDA have a collaborative meeting about road sector issues to enhance knowledge sharing and for capturing lessons learnt



ACEZ collaborates with Zambia Revenue Authority to sensitize Consulting Engineers on taxation issues.



ACEZ conducts a training session in Costing and Budgeting for Buildings and Roads for Zambia National Service.



Public Accounts Committee (PAC) Members attending the ACEZ training workshop in Contract Management for Stakeholders of the Ministry of Infrastructure, Housing and Urban Development.

CAPACITY BUILDING

🏈 PHOTO FOCUS



ACEZ facilitated a NEW training course in "Assessing Delays and Quantum in Construction Claims." The course provided attendees with a clear understanding of the common principles, techniques and procedures used in quantum and delay analysis for construction claims.

Understanding Public Private Partnerships (PPPs) and their Application in Financing Public Infrastructure Projects Workshop



In the NEW ACEZ course, "Measurement and Estimation of Construction Works" participants learnt how to assign value, cost and price to measured quantities related to on-site work which enables effective management of the construction process





ACEZ facilitated a NEW training course in "Principles of Structural Engineering Design." This course provided an understanding of the fundamental principles of structural design in first principle. Hands-on design experience and skills in the analysis and design of structural elements were gained and learned through a comprehensive design project.



Invest in impactful learning experiences that will shape your career in 2025

ACEZ offers open and customised, in-house training courses for built environment professionals. The 2025 line-up of engaging workshops, and hands-on training sessions are designed to equip participants with essential skills for the modern workplace in 2025.

February

MEASUREMENT AND ESTIMATION OF CONSTRUCTION WORKS



This course aims to give participants an understanding of how a payment certificate can be used for tracking progress, verifying quantities for billing purposes, and resolving disputes or discrepancies related to measurements and payments. The course will teach participants how to assign value, cost and price to measured quantities related to on-site work which enables effective management of the construction process. *[Lusaka Session]*

PRINCIPLES OF FINANCE FOR NON FINANCIAL PROFESSIONALS



This course introduces participants to key concepts and principles in finance and accounting. It applies these concepts to common business scenarios in order to arrive at an understanding of the financial implications of business decisions. The course provides a solid foundation for non financial professionals and helps them to understand how to communicate with financial professionals.

March

CONTRACT MANAGEMENT



Contract management is a key management skill that a working professional needs to navigate the complexity of project-based contracts in order to ensure that projects succeed. This course will train participants on how to manage construction contracts, deliverables, deadlines and contract terms and conditions. *[Lusaka Session]*



ZMW 7,000

ZMW 7,000

ZMW 7,000

April

RENEWABLE ENERGY FUNDAMENTALS

ZMW 8,000



Develop a foundational understanding of renewable energy market segments for economic, social and environmental sustainability in the renewable energy fundamentals course. Participants will learn how to assess the feasibility, plan, finance and execute the construction and operations of renewable energy projects.

May

ROAD SAFETY AUDITS





In this course, participants will gain an understanding of the road safety appraisal and audit process. It also delves into how to manage and conduct road safety audits. Participants will be guided through various aspects of the road safety audit process, whilst being required to complete a road safety assignment in class as part of a road safety audit team.

PUBLIC PROCUREMENT IN ZAMBIA

ZMW 7,000



This course will help participants to develop a clear understanding of the public procurement law in Zambia as it applies to construction administration and construction of works, and assimilate the obligations and liabilities placed on the consultants, contractors and procurement entity staff.

June

PRINCIPLES OF STRUCTURAL ENGINEERING DESIGN

ZMW 8,000



This refresher course provides an understanding of the fundamental principles of structural design in first principle. Hands-on design experience and skills in the analysis and design of structural elements will be gained and learned through a comprehensive design project.



COSTING AND BUDGETING (WATER PROJECTS)

ZMW 7,000



While quality and time are essential, the project budget remains the key factor. Cost estimations are essential in the construction industry for planning, coordinating and executing activities and play a central role in both pre-construction and construction phases of a project. At the end of this course, participants will know how to prepare preliminary cost estimates for water projects using various estimation methods.

July

MEASUREMENT AND ESTIMATION OF CONSTRUCTION WORKS

ZMW 8,500



This course aims to give participants an understanding of how a payment certificate can be used for tracking progress, verifying quantities for billing purposes, and resolving disputes or discrepancies related to measurements and payments. The course will teach participants how to assign value, cost and price to measured quantities related to on-site work which enables effective management of the construction process. (*Copperbelt Edition*)

August

CONSTRUCTION CLAIMS MANAGEMENT

ZMW 8,000



Understanding how to properly prepare, defend and manage construction claims is essential for a successful project outcome, and will maximise the number of claims that can be settled without escalating into costly and time consuming disputes. This workshop is designed to provide attendees with a clear understanding of the common principles, techniques and procedures in preparing and/or defending claims.

ESTIMATING, COSTING AND PRICING OF CONSTRUCTION TENDERS

ZMW 7,000



Course participants will be able to confidently estimate project costs, timescales and develop appropriate resource management plans. This course will focus on general principles and measurement when it comes to the tendering process. It is ideal for professionals who have the responsibility for preparing cost / schedule estimates and project proposals in client, consulting and contracting companies.



ZMW 19,500

September

FIDIC EPC/ TURNKEY PROJECTS

In this practical training course, participants will develop an understanding of the use of the FIDIC Contracts used in Engineering, Procurement and Construction/Turnkey projects. It will explore the turnkey model, as well as unpack the main distinguishing features between the Silver Book and other applicable FIDIC forms of Contract.

October

GEOMETRIC DESIGN OF ROADS

ZMW 7,000



This course focuses on the full design process of the dimensional features of a road that are related to its operational quality and safety. In this interactive session, geometric design considerations such as alignment, cross-sections, intersections and interchanges will be discussed in detail. Participants will gain an understanding of road operational requirements and how traffic analysis and the environment influence the selection of geometric properties.

CONTRACT MANAGEMENT (Copperbelt Edition)

ZMW 8,500



Contract management is a key management skill that a working professional needs to navigate the complexity of project- based contracts in order to ensure that projects succeed. This course will train participants on how to manage construction contracts, deliverables, deadlines and contract terms and conditions.

November

COSTING AND BUDGETING (BUILDINGS AND ROADS)

ZMW 7,000



In this session, participants will learn how to prepare preliminary cost estimates for buildings and road projects using various estimation methods. They will get an overview of the cost estimation process, cost estimation models and cost data requirements. The course wraps up with a practical exercise by incorporating elements such as Bill of Quantities (BOQ) and Schedule of Materials (SOM) and its use to help them understand their differences and respective uses.

NOTE: Please note that the costs, trainer, venue and dates are subject to change

If you have any specific training needs which you would like to have tailored to your organisation, Contact: 0211 256 651 / +260 972 961 569, E-mail: pauline@acez.co.zm







Available books at ACEZ Secretariat

Red Book, 2nd Edition (2017 Reprinted 2022)	K5,000
Yellow Book, 2nd Edition (2017 Reprinted 2022)	К5,000
Silver Book, 2nd Edition (2017 Reprinted 2022)	К5,000
Model Services Agreement Client / Consultant, 5th Edition (2017)	K1,350
Red Book (1999)	K1,500
Yellow Book (1999)	K1,500
Silver Book (1999)	K1,500
Green Book Short Form of Contract Book (1999)	K1,350
FIDIC Guide to Practice (2015 Edition)	K5,000

*Prices may vary. Limited Stock Available.



🖿 🚺 Association of Consulting Engineers of Zambia - ACEZ

ENGINEER'S PERSPECTIVE

OF CONSULTING

OF ZAMBL

SOCIATION

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Join a Progressive Community of Forward-Thinking Engineers.

MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES



BENEFITS OF ACEZ MEMBERSHIP

Advocacy – ACEZ lobbies government and stakeholders on behalf of its members and also acts as a liaison between key government agencies

Networking and Knowledge Sharing – ACEZ is a platform for networking professionally and a place where meaningful business connections can be made.

Quality Assurance – Stakeholders, the government, and the general public are assured of a high standard of work from a member of ACEZ. This, in turn, increases the marketability and suitability of a firm or individual member to be retained to work on key projects. Creation of Business Opportunities (Jobs) for Our Members – The Association finds jobs for its members through its networks.

Capacity Development – ACEZ is committed to providing capacity development programs for its members to ensure that they keep abreast of new technologies and trends in the industry.

Promotion of Best Practice – ACEZ, as the local contact for FIDIC Africa and FIDIC (the African umbrella body for all consulting engineering associations in Africa and the umbrella body for all consulting engineering associations in the world), shares international best practice with its members, increasing their competitive advantage locally and internationally.

Download the application form from our website: https://www.acez.co.zm/join-acez/ Contact Us: St. Eugene Office Park, Office No.6,Plot No. 37/1P Lake Road, Kabulonga, Lusaka Tel: +260 211 256 651 | Mobile: +260 972 961 569 | E-mail: info@acez.co.zm



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