



ASSOCIATION OF WEST AFRICA
UNIVERSITIES (AWAU)

INTERNATIONAL CAPACITY BUILDING & STUDY TOUR

FOR DIRECTORS OF
WORKS & PHYSICAL
PLANNING

**AUGUST
2ND – 5TH
2026**

VENUE:

GHANA COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY
UNIVERSITY MAIN CAMPUS, TESANO,
ACCRA, GHANA.

T H E M E :
**STRATEGIC LEADERSHIP
IN INFRASTRUCTURE PLANNING,
EXECUTION & MONITORING**

PARTNERS



The Association of West Africa Universities (AWAU) is a sub-regional academic network established on January 10, 2011, at the University of Ilorin in Nigeria. It aims to promote collaboration, improve educational infrastructure, and ensure higher education in West Africa translates directly to graduate employability.

The association was inaugurated through the "Ilorin Declaration" by Vice Chancellors and principal officers from across the West African sub-region. Its core objectives and functions include:

- **Academic Interchange:** Promoting cooperation, research, and contact among higher education institutions across Anglophone, Francophone, and Lusophone West Africa.
- **Quality Assurance:** Enhancing leadership capacity and establishing academic standards that meet global relevance.
- **Sub-Regional Integration:** Working alongside the Association of African Universities (AAU) and other bodies like CAMES to coordinate regional education agendas.

AWAU regularly hosts Annual General Meetings, workshops, and international conferences that bring together university leaders, scholars, and policymakers. The secretariat operates from Nigeria, with the body constantly expanding its strategic plans to support the development and digital transformation needs of universities in the region.



**GHANA COMMUNICATION
TECHNOLOGY UNIVERSITY**
KNOWLEDGE COMES FROM LEARNING

ABOUT GHANA COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY UNIVERSITY (GCTU)

Ghana Communication Technology University (GCTU) is a premier public university in Ghana specializing in ICT, telecommunications, and business. Headquartered in Tesano, Accra, it offers undergraduate and

graduate degree programs across the GCTU Business School, Faculty of Computing and Information Systems, and Faculty of Engineering. GCTU initially started in 2005 as a training center before attaining full public university status in August 2020. With a student population exceeding 10,000, the institution is highly regarded for its industry-relevant curriculum and technology-oriented programs.



ABOUT UNILORIN CONSULTANCY SERVICES CENTER (UCSC)

Unilorin Consultancy Services Center is a subsidiary of Unilorin Holdings Limited, dedicated to providing expert guidance and innovative solutions in education, business, and professional development.

The center operates across three core areas, leveraging on the university's academic expertise to provide the following services:

- **Professional Business & Tech Consulting:** Advisory in financial management, IT infrastructure, cybersecurity, and strategic business planning.
 - **Education & Training:** Expert support in curriculum development, accreditation, and capacity building for academic and corporate institutions.
- Specialized Services:** It also manages local Driving School Services, project management, and baseline/feasibility surveys.

WORKSHOP BRIEF

The rapid expansion of tertiary education has increased the demand for well-planned, sustainable, and technology-driven infrastructure. Directors of Works and Physical Planning are expected to deliver quality projects that align with institutional strategic plans while ensuring accountability, value for money, and timely completion.

This international executive programme has been designed to strengthen the leadership and technical capacity of infrastructure managers in tertiary institutions. The programme combines expert-led training with practical learning through institutional visits to leading universities in Ghana, providing participants with first-hand exposure to innovative approaches to campus planning, infrastructure development, project monitoring, and sustainable facilities management.

Participants will gain practical knowledge on masterplan implementation, project conceptualization, project monitoring, Artificial Intelligence (AI) applications, sustainability, and infrastructure leadership, while networking with peers and industry experts.

Venue: Ghana Communication Technology University Main Campus,
Tesano, Accra, Ghana. (GCTU)

Date: August 2nd – 5th, 2026

LEARNING OUTCOMES

Participants will learn how to:

Translate institutional masterplans into implementable projects.

Improve project planning and feasibility studies.

Reduce project delays, cost overruns, and implementation risks.

Apply AI tools in project planning, reporting, and monitoring.

Develop effective monitoring and evaluation systems.

Integrate sustainability into campus infrastructure.

Benchmark against successful Ghanaian universities.

Build networks with peers across tertiary institutions.



SCHEDULE

DAY 1

SUNDAY 2ND OF AUGUST 2026

ARRIVALS

DAY 2

MONDAY 3RD OF AUGUST 2026 –
EXECUTIVE MASTERCLASS SESSIONS

DAY 3

TUESDAY 4TH OF AUGUST 2026
GHANA STUDY TOUR

DAY 4

WEDNESDAY 5TH OF AUGUST 2026
DEPARTURE



MODULES

Module	Session(s)
Strategic Planning	Session 1
Infrastructure Planning & Project Conceptualization	Session 1
Project Execution , Contract Administration & Risk Management	Session 2
Infrastructure Financing	Session 2
Project Monitoring & Evaluation	Session 3
AI in Infrastructure Planning & Monitoring	Session 3
Sustainable Campus Development	Session 4
Infrastructure Asset Management and Maintenance Strategies	Session 4
Strategic Governance	Session 5
Regulatory Compliance & Stakeholder Management	Session 5

SCHEDULE



DAY 2 Opening Ceremony

Time	Session
8:00 – 9:00 am	Registration and Networking - Protocol Team
9:00 – 9:02 am	Opening Prayer - Rev. Dr. Michael Owusu Tabiri, Head of Language Centre
9:03 – 9:05 am	Introduction of Chairperson - Ms. Jennifer Akude, Registrar, GCTU
9:05 – 9:10 am	Chairman's Response - Ing. Divine D. K. Kpetigo, Chairman, GCTU Council
9:10am – 9:15am	Welcome Address - Prof. Ebenezer Malcalm – Vice-Chancellor/ Pro Vice-Chancellor, GCTU.
9:15am– 9:20am	Purpose of Gathering - Prof. Wahab Olasupo Egbewole, Senior Advocate of Nigeria & Vice-Chancellor, University of Ilorin
9:20am– 9:35am	Keynote Address - Nigerian High Commissioner to Ghana
9:35am– 9:40am	Chairman's Closing - Ing. Divine D. K. Kpetigo, Chairman, GCTU Council Remarks
9:40am– 9:45am	Vote of Thanks - Prof. Theresa Obuobisa-Darko, Dean of Business School

SCHEDULE

DAY 2 Executive Masterclass

Time	Session
8:00 – 9:00 am	Registration and Networking
9:00 – 9:45 am	Opening Ceremony & Programme Overview
10:00am– 11:00am	Session 1: Strategic Campus Master Planning. Infrastructure Planning and Project Conceptualization
11:00am – 11:15am	Tea Break
11:15am – 12:15pm	Session 2: Project Execution, Contract Administration, & Risk Management. Infrastructure Financing
12:15pm – 1:00pm	Lunch
1:00pm – 2:15pm	Session 3: Project Monitoring & Evaluation AI in Infrastructure Planning and Monitoring
2:15pm – 3:15pm	Session 4: Sustainable Campus Development. Infrastructure Asset Management and Maintenance Strategies
3:15pm – 3:30 pm	Tea Break
3:30pm – 4:30pm	Session 5: Strategic Leadership, & Governance Regulatory Compliance and Stakeholder Management
4:30pm – 5:00pm	Interactive Discussion, Action Planning and Study Tour Briefing

SCHEDULE

DAY 3 International Institutional Study Tour

MC - Dr. Nusrat-Jahan Abubakar, Director, University Relations.

Time	Activity
7:30 – 8:00 am	Departure from Hotel
8:30 – 11:00 am	Study Visit 1: University of Ghana - Master Planning, Infrastructure Governance, Estate Management, Sustainable Campus Development and Facilities Maintenance
11:00 – 11:15 am	Tea Break
11:15 am – 12:30 pm	Technical Engagement with the Directorate of Physical Development and Estate Management
12:30 – 1:30 pm	Lunch
2:00 – 4:00 pm	Study Visit 2: Ghana Communication Technology University - Smart Campus Development, Digital Infrastructure, AI-enabled Facilities Management and Innovation in Project Delivery
4:00 – 4:45 pm	Reflection Session: Lessons from Ghana and Application to Nigerian Tertiary Institutions
4:45 – 5:30 pm	Closing Ceremony, Presentation of Certificates and Group Photograph

FACILITATOR



Surv. Gordon A. Baapiri *MPhil, BSc, MGhIS*

Director, Works and Physical Development (GCTU).

SESSION: Leadership and Sustainability in Infrastructure Project Monitoring and Delivery

Surv. Gordon Ang-Bangdeme Baapiri is the Director of Works and Physical Development at Ghana Communication Technology University (GCTU), where he provides strategic leadership for the University's infrastructure development agenda, spearheading major capital projects and the modernization of existing physical facilities in support of academic excellence and institutional growth. In 2023, he was recognized as the Best Administrative Director for his outstanding performance in infrastructural development at GCTU's Annual staff durbar. Surv. Baapiri holds an M.Phil. in Construction Management and a B.Sc. in Building Technology from Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology (KNUST), an HND in Building Technology from Kumasi Polytechnic, and a Certificate in Project Management from Crux Training Institute, Accra.

He is a Professional Member of the Ghana Institution of Surveyors (MGhIS) and has maintained good professional standing for over fourteen (14) years. With more than twenty (20) years of professional experience in Quantity Surveying and Construction Project Management, Surv. Baapiri has built a distinguished career in Ghana's construction industry. He began his career with North West Consortium Limited, Wa, where he served for twelve (12) years and progressed to the position of Senior Quantity Surveyor. He subsequently worked with Daewoo Engineering & Construction Co. Ltd. on the Tema Sogakope Road Rehabilitation Project before joining Construction Logistics (GH) Limited, a subsidiary of TG Holdings, as Project Manager and Senior Quantity Surveyor. Within a year of joining the company, he was recognized as Employee of the Year (2017) for his outstanding performance.

Over the course of his career, he has successfully managed and delivered a wide range of infrastructure projects for clients including Metropolitan, Municipal and District Assemblies (MMDAs), the Social Investment Fund (SIF), GETFund, the Ministry of Health, the World Bank, the African Development Bank, the Catholic Dioceses of Wa and Damongo, Barclays Bank Ghana, Stanbic Bank Ghana, Prime Core Africa, the Kuwait Fund, and numerous private clients.

FACILITATOR



Engr Ramoni Kolawole

Director of Works, University of Ilorin, Nigeria

SESSION: Project Execution, Monitoring, and Risk Management.

Engr. Ramoni Kolawole is a seasoned Mechanical Engineer with over two decades of professional experience in the delivery of mechanical engineering services, encompassing printing press machinery installation and maintenance, building services design and installation, plumbing works, and general maintenance in civil and electrical engineering. He began his professional career with Lekmek Engineering Ltd., Benin City, where he was retained after completing his National Youth Service Corps (NYSC) programme. Following the promotion of his immediate supervisor, he was appointed Head of Unit, overseeing technicians in both the design office and field operations, while coordinating project implementation and technical service delivery.

He subsequently joined Academy Press Ltd., Lagos, where he underwent an intensive eighteen-month Management Training Programme. Upon completion, he was appointed Workshop Head, with responsibility for coordinating workshop operations, managing technical personnel, and training the company's technicians. Engr. Kolawole later joined Graphic Machine Centre (VOLTRA) Ltd., Lagos as Head of the Engineering Department. In this role, he coordinated engineering staff and service providers, supervised engineering operations. He also played an active role in the strategic management and administration of the company.

He further advanced his career at AOP Consult Ltd., Lagos, serving as Head of the Facilities Department and service providers for several corporate clients, including Guaranty Trust Bank (GTBank), Bank PHB (now Keystone Bank), and numerous other organizations. He was also actively involved in the company's management and operational decision-making.

In October 2011, Engr. Kolawole joined the University of Ilorin as a Principal Engineer and assumed the position of Head of the Mechanical Unit within the Directorate of Works. He currently serves as the Director of Works, University of Ilorin, where he provides strategic leadership for the Directorate of Works and oversees its day-to-day operations.

Engr. Kolawole's extensive experience in engineering, facilities management, technical leadership, and organizational administration makes him a highly respected professional and an accomplished facilitator with a wealth of practical industry knowledge.

FACILITATOR



Arc. Zakirudeen Oladotun

Chief Executive Officer of ZAKMAD Technical Nigeria Limited.

SESSION: AI Integration in Infrastructure Planning.

Arc. Zakirudeen Oladotun is an architect, serial entrepreneur, business development strategist and international cooperation professional with extensive experience in infrastructure development, project conceptualisation, procurement, manufacturing, institutional partnerships and Nigeria China business relations.

He is the Chief Executive Officer of ZAKMAD Technical Nigeria Limited and serves as Executive Director, Projects, supporting the development of strategic infrastructure, innovation and industry academia initiatives at the University of Ilorin. He has contributed to the conceptualisation of the University of Ilorin Centre for Collaborative Innovation and Training, incorporating technology incubation, vocational development, cottage industrial parks and international institutional cooperation.

Arc. Oladotun is also the Chairman of the NACCIMA China Desk Executive Trade Group and China Relations Executive of the Nigerian Association of Chambers of Commerce, Industry, Mines and Agriculture. In this capacity, he facilitates investment, technology transfer, manufacturing partnerships and institutional cooperation between Nigerian and Chinese organisations. His professional interests include smart-campus development, sustainable infrastructure, artificial intelligence in project planning and monitoring, industrial parks, digital transformation, public private partnerships and international development cooperation.

FACILITATOR



Mr. Ernest Yaw Awuah Apraku

ICA Ghana Fellow, MBA Accounting and Finance.

SESSION: Infrastructure Financing.

Mr. Apraku worked as Finance Officer of Accra Technical University for over twenty (20) years. Currently, He is the Director of Finance of Ghana Communication Technology University. Mr. Apraku is a Chartered Accountant, and holds a Masters Degree in Business Administration (Finance & Accounting option); he has vast experience in Public Sector Financial Management, particularly, in the Tertiary Education sector; and international exposure through participation in numerous international conferences, seminars, and workshops.

Mr. Apraku has contributed immensely to Accountancy education, training, and development. He served as a Resource Person to review ICA (Gh) Study Test Manual on Financial Accounting Fundamentals in 2010, and also taught Financial Accounting

Fundamentals as a part-time Lecturer in ICA (Gh) Study School from 2005 to 2012. He taught Cost Accounting as a part-time Lecturer in Accra Polytechnic, now Accra Technical University, from 2001 to April 2006. He also served as a Resource Person in workshops organized by the Management of Accra Polytechnic in 2012 for Deans and Heads/Deputy Heads of Department, on the topic: Accounting for Non-Accountants. Between 2005 and 2012, he served as a Resource Person in workshops on Capacity Building Project on Leadership and Management, organized by NUFFIC (Netherlands Organization for International Cooperation in Higher Education), for the University of Cape Coast, and the Polytechnics in Ghana.

Mr. Apraku served as the chairman of the Audit Committee of Microfinance and Small Loan Centre (MASLOC) from 2021 to 2024, an organization operating under the Office of the President of the Republic of Ghana.

VISION

Our vision is to create a vibrant and dynamic community of universities in West Africa that are recognized for their excellence in education, research, and innovation. We believe that by working together, we can create a brighter future for the region and help to address some of the most pressing challenges facing West Africa today.

MISSION

Our mission at AWAU is to promote excellence in education, research, and innovation in West Africa. We aim to achieve this by fostering collaboration among our member universities, promoting the exchange of knowledge and ideas, and advocating for policies that support the growth and development of higher education in the region.