



ACEB TRAINING MILESTONE

ACEB steps up FIDIC Contracts training

THE Association of Consulting Engineers Botswana (ACEB) is ramping up the rollout of the International Federation of Consulting Engineers FIDIC Contracts training course to meet the increasing demand across Botswana's private and public sector spaces.

This comes from the realisation that professionals constantly require essential knowledge needed to effectively administer contracts, avoid disputes, and deliver projects successfully.

Designed to provide participants with a comprehensive understanding of FIDIC's internationally recognised standard forms of contract, the FIDIC Contracts training course centres on the practical application of FIDIC contracts commonly used in engineering, construction, and infrastructure projects, and the built environment.

The FIDIC Contracts training course is tailor-made for professionals involved in the planning, procurement, implementation, and management of construction and infrastructure projects.

Key sectors that heavily rely on infrastructure development will see their professionals align with global best practices in project and contract management as a result of FIDIC Contracts training.

The strategic sectors include: engineering and construction, transport and roads infrastructure, water and sanitation, energy and power generation, mining and minerals development, property and real estate development and public infrastructure projects.

One of the main takeaways from these courses is that participants acquire invaluable practical knowledge that strengthens professional competence and promotes international best practices in contract management. During training, participants learn how these contracts allocate responsibilities, manage risks, and guide project implementation from contract award through to completion and dispute resolution.

Salient outcomes from the FIDIC Contracts training cover improved understanding of the structure and principles of FIDIC Contracts, enhanced ability to administer and manage contracts effectively, better risk allocation and project management practices, better value for money in projects, reduced disputes and improved dispute resolution mechanisms and strengthened professional capacity within the construction and infrastructure sectors.

Targeted participants include engineers and consulting engineers, architects, quantity surveyors, project managers, contractors and subcontractors, procurement and contract management professionals, legal practitioners involved in construction law, developers and project owners, and government officials responsible for infrastructure development.

From FIDIC training courses, immense benefits are realised in the public sector, particularly government ministries and departments through strengthening their capacity to effectively manage public infrastructure projects and associated funds, *inter alia*.

Participants laud ACEB for upskilling them and call for more such courses in future!

"ACEB remains committed to supporting the growth of professional expertise in the built environment sector through high-quality training programmes aligned with global standards and best practices," ACEB Chief Executive Officer, Eng. Lillian Mosimaneotsile says. "We encourage all professionals involved in infrastructure development to take advantage of FIDIC training opportunities."

Eng. Mosimaneotsile says ACEB offers far more than just FIDIC Contracts training programmes. "Our goal is to upskill all personnel playing a role in the built environment. These programmes are being carefully developed and will be unveiled in due course as we expand the value to our clients and stakeholders."

Participants (above) from Debswana management during an ACEB-facilitated FIDIC Contracts training session (insert) in Gaborone. Participants lauded ACEB for upskilling them and called for more such courses in future.

ACEB recently facilitated two separate five-day FIDIC Contracts training courses for the Debswana Diamond Company, one at Debswana Head Office (DCC) and the other at Orapa, Letlhakane and Damshtaa Mine (OLDM).

One of the participants, Oratile Tumediso-Entaile a Senior Contract Administrator at Jwaneng Mine (Underground Expansion Project) said the training will assist Debswana in addressing the challenges around claims and disputes, especially in claims management. "This internationally accredited training will allow us to be proactive in claims management," she explained. "The key challenge with us is identifying who is supposed to communicate with the contractor, and what is supposed to be communicated with them."

Emmanuel Kgantumo, a Project Controls Manager at Debswana Head Office said the training has helped him better understand the principles of contracts. "Some of the challenges we face include delays in delivery and extending times of delivery," Kgantumo illuminates. "This training is quite relevant and helps us to manage and deal with the projects and contractors that we have as Debswana."

Through training programmes offered by ACEB, and by investing in capacity building, industry stakeholders can contribute to improved project delivery, stronger professional standards, and sustainable infrastructure development in Botswana. ■

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