



## MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

between

**KWAME NKURUMAH UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND  
TECHNOLOGY (KNUST)**

**[For Its KNUST Engineering Education Project (KEEP)]**

and

**ECOLE POLYTECHNIQUE D'ABOMEY-CALAVI (EPAC)**

**UNIVERTE D'ABOMEY-CALAVI (UAC)**

**REPUBLIQUE DU BENIN**

**[For Its College of Engineering-Energie, Infrastructure De  
Transport Et Environnement (EPAC/CoE-EIE)]**

March, 2023

This Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) sets the terms and understanding between the **KWAME NKRUMAH UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY** for its **KNUST Engineering Education Project (KEEP)**, University Post Office, Private Mail Bag, Kumasi-Ghana, an educational institution established by the Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology Act, 1961 (Act 80) as amended, to provide tertiary education, (hereinafter referred to as “**KNUST**” which expression shall whenever the context so admits or requires include its successors or assigns), represented by its true and lawful attorney, **PROFESSOR RITA AKOSUA DICKSON** (Vice-Chancellor) at the Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology (KNUST) and

the **Ecole Polytechnique D’abomey-Calavi (EPAC)** Universte D’abomey-Calavi (UAC) Republique du Benin for its **College of Engineering-Energie, Infrastructure de transport et Environnement (EPAC/CoE-EIE)** to collaborate in Energy, Mechanical Engineering and Transport Equipment.

### **Background**

The KNUST Engineering Education Project (KEEP) seeks to address the shortage of high-level skills and applied research in the area of Energy and Digital Development in Ghana and the sub-region. The vision of KEEP is to contribute to Ghana and the sub-region’s industrial and digital revolution through excellence in engineering education, research and innovation.

The Centre is focused on strengthening postgraduate education at the College of Engineering, conducting, and disseminating applied research; focused on addressing development challenges related to industrialization, digital development and energy.

The quality of education will be improved through the provision of infrastructure (classrooms and equipment) to enhance learning and research environment, structured internship with industry, collaboration with other Universities, innovation and startups development. Applied research will be enhanced through strong partnership with industry, contract research, industry funded research that addresses priority applied research questions that meets the need of industry.

The “College of Engineering-Energy, Transport Infrastructure, Environment” (EPAC/CoE-EIE) aims to provide Africa with a center of excellence in training, expertise and innovation in engineering in the industrial and biological sectors. This project is perfectly in line with EPAC's strategic development plan for the period 2019-2024 and whose vision is "By 2024, EPAC is a center of excellence equipped with infrastructure and capable of satisfying the needs for qualified human resources in technological innovation at the national, regional and international level”.

It intends to take up the challenge of training competent personnel to solve development problems. The skills-based approach on the one hand, the consideration of technological innovations and governance on the other hand, are retained to respond effectively to this objective.

The EPAC/CoE-EIE will meet the needs of governments, businesses and local communities by placing engineers in energy, electrical engineering, infrastructure-transport and the environment on the job market, using a strategy that:

- o involves all stakeholders in the chain in the definition of training programs and research-action themes aligned with the needs of industries and communities;
- o uses advanced technologies in the development of research programs;
- o promotes entrepreneurship, gender, sustainable development, cultural diversity and quality assurance in all CoE-IEE activities.

Thus, in the training courses of the EPAC/CoE-EIE, both at master's and doctoral level, efforts will be concentrated on the reinforcement of three programs already provided at EPAC and the creation of two new complementary programs according to needs, with particular emphasis on renewable energies, energy efficiency, electromechanics, transport infrastructure and the environment.

The missions of the EPAC/CoE-EIE are to ensure:

- training leading mainly to Master's degrees and Master's and doctorate degrees in Design Engineering in the fields of energy, transport and the environment;
- scientific and technological research;
- engineering expertise for the benefit of the community;
- the publication and dissemination of scientific documents, the fruit of research and technological innovation;
- the improvement and continuous training of the personnel of private companies and all state structures that express the need for it.

### **Purpose**

Both institutions are hosting African Centres of Excellence and are focusing on similar thematic areas (Energy and Mechanical Engineering). This partnership between the two institutions from different parts of Africa would be of a mutual benefit to both institutions. To achieve this goal, KNUST and EPAC/CoE-EIE intend to collaborate in the following areas:

1. Collaborative research and joint grant applications.
2. Students Mobility and exchange
3. Staff and faculty members exchange
4. Collaborative research
5. Engagement in collaborative workshops, seminars and academic meetings.
6. Develop tailor-made professional development short-term courses
7. Sharing of digital library resources
8. The Universite d'Abomey Calavi will accept BA French students for exchange for a year and likewise KNUST will also accept staff and students from Universite d'Abomey

### **Duration**

- (a) The duration of this MoU is initially set for five (5) years, but can be extended upon a mutual Agreement of all Parties.
- (b) This Agreement may be terminated by any of the Parties for good cause only such as,

but not limited to, a breach of this Agreement in any material manner and failure to remedy such breach within thirty (30) days after written notice thereof by the terminating Party.

**Amendments**

This Agreement may be amended or revised by written consent of the Parties. No variation of this Agreement will be effective unless reduced to writing and duly signed by or on behalf of each of the Parties.

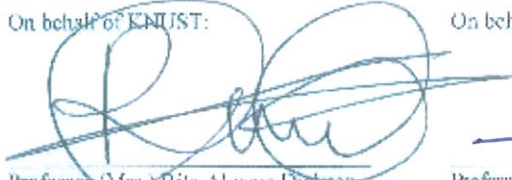
**Effective Date**

This MOU shall become effective upon signature by the authorized officials from the KNUST and EPAC/CoE-EIE and will remain in effect until modified or terminated by any one of the parties by mutual consent. In the absence of mutual agreement by the authorized officials from KNUST and EPAC/CoE-EIE this MOU shall end on **31 août 2027**.

In witness whereof, the Parties have caused this Memorandum to become effective as of the day and date written below (the "Effective Date").



On behalf of KNUST:



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WITNESS

  
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Date: 30-03-23

On behalf of Université D'abomey-Calavi (UAC):



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Date: 30-03-2023

WITNESS

  
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Date: 30-03-2023