



GEMS 2:

Increasing Profits, Incomes, & Employment in Construction

The GEMS 2 Construction and Real Estate Project promotes growth of Nigeria's construction and real estate sector, in order to increase profits, employment opportunities, and incomes for those working in the sector.

Towards More Effective Advocacy:

There is significant potential for growth in the construction and real estate sector, but this growth is constrained by a disabling business environment that keeps costs high and profits lower than they should be.

Building a Better Business Environment

To support businesses' demands for change, GEMS 2 is strengthening business membership organisations' (BMOs') abilities to represent their members and is improving BMOs' capacity to influence policies, rules, and regulations so they foster business growth.

Linking Employers with Artisans:

GEMS 2 is facilitating the creation of an artisan-employer linkage service, designed specifically for the construction sector, which will simplify and expedite artisan recruitment.

Simplifying and Expediting Recruitment of Skilled Workers

In addition to linking employers with artisans, the service will offer certification to skilled workers, providing employers with valuable and trustworthy information on potential recruits. The ultimate aim of the service is to make the recruitment process more efficient and less costly for all parties involved.

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Growing Companies' Business & Technical Know-How:

Skills That Help Reduce Business Costs and Increase Revenues

GEMS 2 is facilitating the provision of business and technical skills to companies working in and with the construction sector - in the areas of project planning and financing, business development, operations, site management, and more.

The goal is to provide a range of companies - from management consultancies to construction, engineering and architecture firms - with skills and knowledge that will allow them to cut costs and increase revenues.

Promoting Efficiency and Quality in the Supply Chain:

For Better Construction Materials, at Lower Cost

GEMS 2 seeks to help manufacturers supplying the construction sector become more efficient and productive, in order to reduce the cost of construction materials, such as concrete blocks, wood, and tiles, and, ultimately, to increase profits and incomes for supplier and construction companies.

While bolstering efficiency and productivity, GEMS 2 aims to also improve the quality of construction materials so they are more reliable and long-lasting. In addition to reducing the costs to construction firms that low-quality materials create, better materials will lengthen the lifetime of buildings, infrastructure, and other built products, leading to greater demand for housing, offices, and cosmetic buildings.

Building a More Skilled Labour Force:

Reducing Construction Costs and Improving the Quality of Products

A highly skilled workforce requires little supervision, allowing businesses to undertake multiple projects simultaneously. It reduces wastage that occurs from unskilled handling of materials, and limits the need to redo projects due to poorly executed work. Additionally, skilled workers produce higher quality work, which over time results in greater demand for construction services.

GEMS 2 is working to improve the skills of established artisans and is helping equip the youth and unemployed with skills demanded in the construction sector. The project is ensuring that vocational training curricula respond to the needs of employers, and that all project-facilitated skills training courses and apprenticeship systems are quality controlled. To ensure that skills training is valuable to participants and employers, GEMS 2 is bringing together construction companies, BMOs, government officials, private training providers, and others, to develop and implement a robust skills certification system.

Promoting Sector Growth Through Public Private Partnerships:

Innovative Partnerships That Enable New Construction Projects

Today, the Government of Nigeria is responsible for the large majority of construction spending in the country. To stimulate growth of the sector without further increasing government spending, GEMS 2 is promoting innovative public private partnerships, where government resources enable new construction projects without taking money out of government coffers.

For instance, since the major obstacles to the construction of affordable housing are lack of access to finance, land, and building permits, GEMS 2 is bringing together banks, construction companies, and the government to encourage a partnership that demonstrates that building affordable housing is both possible on tight government budgets and profitable for businesses.