



East African Student Seminar on Materials technologies for sustainable construction: a report (or a recipe!)

Dar es Salaam, Tanzania, 3-4 Feb 2020

Ingredients for about 30 students

- Take an enthusiastic German doctor in civil engineering, like Dr Wolfram Schmidt, with a passion for Africa and its people and the vision to build things in a different (better) way.



- Take a super star in alternative cementitious materials, like Prof Karen Scrivener, determined to change the direction of carbon footprint of the cement industry worldwide.

- Take a young African researcher, expert in cement-based materials with focus on utilisation of agricultural wastes.

- Take a former researcher in Australia with an extensive knowledge in rammed earth construction.



- Put the four speakers together in a room of the University of Dar es Salaam for two days together with just about 20 students from Tanzania, Kenya and Uganda. No need to select the students invited to attend the seminar: whoever travels by bus for 16 hours (each way!) to attend a seminar on “material technologies for sustainable construction” is by default a genuinely interested and motivated student, the best ever!



- To make this dish more appetizing, serve this recipe on a plate of kindness and conviviality of the local hosts, like Prof Fatma Mohamed, Prof John Makunza and Miss Nsesheye Susan Msinjili.



- Do not forget to season and toss the ingredients in a Mishikaki RILEM night where all can mingle and chat in a relaxed environment.



- For a 100% success of this recipe, it might help to have the financial support of government bodies, like the German Ministry for Education and Research, and no-profit organizations, like RILEM.

Try this simple but rewarding recipe as many times as possible and in as many African countries as possible. Enjoy your meal!!!

