



Dear Readers,

what's the state of affairs at Valley View University (VVU) during this 2003 summer's rainy season:

The German Partners, this time Nicola Jokisch from Prof. Glücklich's chair of ecological building, Bauhaus Uni Weimar and Mr. Geller, Ecological Engineering Society (IÖV), visited VVU a second time in 2003 in June, 6.-12. As always hospitality from VVU has been great, including tasty and plentiful meals: many many thanks!

Main topics of this visit have been: The new sanitary installations, the ecological masterplan, the next buildings and additional programmes to support the ecological development of VVU.

The first item was fixing all the necessary preparations for the ecological sanitary installations in the main building end of July this year. The contractor of the German sanitary installation company Geberit, the firm aplutech 2000, was on site at VVU to discuss the programme and the installation work with Mr. Kwandahor (responsible for all technical and architectural affairs at VVU), the head of VVU and the German visitors and to closely inspect the existing situation in the main building. It was decided that Geberit / aplutech 2000 will give general instructions and will take care of the correct installation procedure and the VVU construction group will be responsible for the installation and the necessary update of the toilet rooms itself. There will 2 separation toilets, 3 water saving toilets, and 2 different urinals be installed among others (all delivered from Germany, now on the way to Accra and payed by the German side). All the "harvested" material of the toilets goes to a new septic tank and 2 urine tanks outside the building and later to the farming area. The responsible farming manager is Mr. George Ofoli as part of the coming agricultural department under the supervision of Dr. Osei.

For comparison of the present state and the state after installation of the new toilet system the mass flow now will be calculated and also a checklist handed over to VVU which will evaluate the acceptance of the existing system.

The Masterplan discussion with the board of the University and members of the masterplan committee took most of the time, being the most important guideline for the development of VVU in the next future. All have been very pleased by the work done by Nicola Jokisch and Prof. Glücklich.



*Field trip nature conservation and markets*



The next building complex to be constructed (the cafeteria for the secondary school being under construction just now) will be a first faculty complex according to the design of Nicola Jokisch. This faculty complex will consist of 2 department complexes with 3 floors, 4 houses total.

It is obvious that professional craftsmen are essential for the qualified development of VVU and the whole of Ghana. For a successful development and implementation of all the new ecological design and technics an improvement of the educational programme will be very necessary.

For the plumbers an educational Public Private Partnership (PPP)-programme will be applied for, where at various levels courses for ecological sanitary installations for future foreman, for customers, for authorities and for students and university staff will be held at VVU. The IÖV will work out a detailed approval for various courses and seminars, including a higher national diploma course spanning two years with 4 months total in the breaks of the semesters. This shall enable work that guarantees a high level of quality throughout all the steps of implementation, from consultation to construction till maintenance.

Dr. Germer of the Centre for agriculture in the tropics and subtropics, University of Hohenheim, Prof. Sauerborn, will visit VVU end of September for starting utilizing the various "sanitary products" in the agricultural area of VVU. Together with Mr. Berger from Berger-biotech (who shipped all the sanitary equipment) he will look to the first experiences with the new installations. They will do a first introductory course for the students and the workers/plumbers too, together with the Geberit people.

Dr. Laryea, the President of VVU, will come to Germany this summer, to discuss the main research programme to come and the additional programmes for the ecological development of VVU with the German partners, members of ministries and other authorities and will visit places of interest like the training center of Geberit.

Gunther Geller und Nicola Jokisch, June 2003



*Visit of sanitary firm aplutech 2000 (Geberit contractor) at VVU*