

Capability Statement

Epoc Congo Limited

Consulting Structural and Civil Engineers



Epoc  ngo Ltd

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Our Company

Epoc Congo Ltd is a company set up for proposed road re-opening work in the DR Congo. This company is part of Epoc Ltd which has operated as an engineering consultancy in the UK since 1996.

Epoc Ltd consultancies have been involved in road and structures design and survey mainly in the UK. However the individual overseas experience within the company gives Epoc Ltd ample capability for working in the DR Congo and elsewhere in Africa. The close connections of Epoc Congo Ltd's personnel with the Democratic Republic of Congo generates a sympathy and understanding for the Democratic Republic of Congo and motivates our commitment to recruit where possible personnel at all levels from within the DR Congo.

The aim of Epoc Congo Ltd is to strengthen economic capability through sustainable infra structure development and to promote the exchange of key skills and technology effective for good governance. Efficient road construction projects are essential to the delivery of modern transportation solutions which are required to open up markets, develop economic capacity and enhance security and governance. This is why Epoc Congo Ltd was set up and why we seek to be involved with road construction projects in DR Congo.

We see this as a long term commitment.

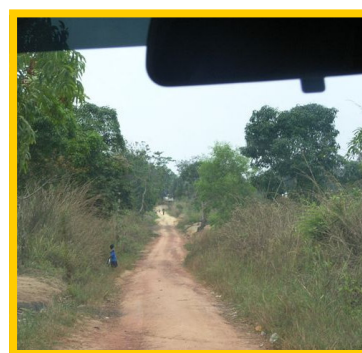
Company directors: Peter Ingram
Don Hughes
Adolphe Bagishire
Alphonse Balole
Mike Burke

The services we offer

Epoc Congo Ltd is uniquely placed to offer a range of engineering consultancy services tailored to deliver infrastructure outcomes that strengthen local capacity and sustainability. We are able to do this through a unique combination of skills and expertise drawing upon experience and contacts both with the UK and within the DR of Congo.

These include:

- Surveying
- Excavation and earthworks
- Road, bridge, pipeline and culvert construction
- Road maintenance and traffic management planning
- Structural design
- Highways structure inspection
- Environmental and risk assessment
- Geo-technical expertise
- Procurement and transport
- Concept generation and site selection
- Local translation and language skills
- Local contacts and experience in DR Congo.



Our Experience

Individual members of Epoc Congo Ltd have acquired a wide variety of engineering and design experience both in the UK and overseas. This has included:

In the United Kingdom

Operating as a general structural and civil engineering consultancy working throughout the UK since 1996. This has involved offering engineering consultancy on a wide variety of projects including retaining structures and bridge strengthening.

We have design engineering experience on various structural designs up to a value of £25 million. We have experience in highways structure design and inspection working with the Highways Agency as well as railway bridge design experience with major contractors.

In the Middle East

Saudi Arabia: Working for the government to deliver a major sewage scheme in Barada in the north of the country. Responsibility for earthworks and water extraction for the deep excavations for pump stations. Providing labour, sourcing plant procurement and undertaking all necessary surveying.

Oman: Setting up and maintaining local roads. Organising the import of supplies into the region, working closely with the military. Arranging shipment for supplies into the region. Surveying, road housing and allocation of land. Arranging training for contract procedures. Experience has also been gained in working in remote regions and in war zones.

Qatar: Providing deep excavation for foundations and heavy reinforced concrete. Negotiating claims for contractors and agreeing monthly payments between the client and contractor.

Dubai: In particular we have contributed towards the design for the Dubai Dry Dock involving caisson design and jointing of caissons and fender design. We also have experience in building up resources including plant, personnel and method statements required to price potential overseas contracts.

In Africa

Nigeria: Working out of Lagos. Involved in estimating and planning for contracts procured within the country. Providing chief engineering services responsible for programming the design of roads. The programme involved delivering the personnel and plant required for the excavation of bridges, the construction of culverts and the preparation of earthworks necessary for road construction



Levelling work—Akure Nigeria



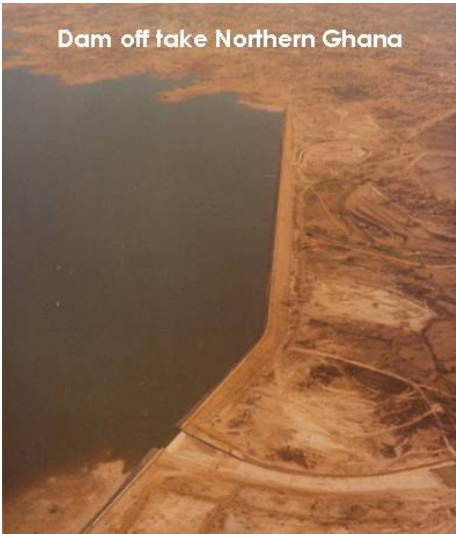
**Laying a culvert—
Akure, Nigeria**



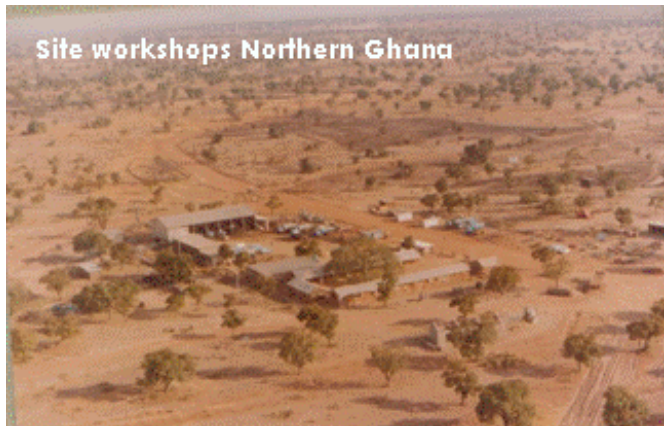
Road paving work—Akure, Nigeria

Ghana: Arranging for the supply and provision of labour, materials and consumables by road into a remote area of northern Ghana. This was part of a 60,000 acre irrigation scheme involving the construction of roads and canals linking the reservoir formed by a concrete dam. This involved overcoming the logistical problems of supplying materials over considerable distances from coastal ports without air freight support.

This project involved the building of a township to accommodate key construction workers which was then subsequently used by maintenance staff.



Dam off lake Northern Ghana



Site workshops Northern Ghana

Our Specialist Skills

We are able to offer a special blend of skills and experienced garnered both in the UK, Middle East and in Africa that put Epoc Congo Limited in a unique position to support the provision of road construction through engineering and business consultancy.

We have gained experience of estimating, planning, programming, surveying and procurement for major structural and civil engineering projects in Africa. This has involved the contracting of local labour, the establishment of townships, workshops and maintenance depots along with the procurement of plant and provisions in remote areas without airfreight and during times of military conflict.

We have experience in the construction of bridges, culverts as well as other retaining structures and the organisation of ground works. We also have experience in operating routine maintenance and inspection programmes.

We have skills in project management, client liaison, sub contractor appointment and supervision, communications and presentation. We have acquired experience in design and computer modelling techniques.

Our skills also embrace key personnel who have been born and educated in the DR Congo and who have knowledge of local contractors and government agencies as well as contacts with members of parliament and other strategic stakeholders. These personnel provide cultural and linguistic skills essential for accurate and constructive negotiations and communications with local communities and provide a unique link between Epoc Congo Limited and the people of the DR Congo.

Our People



Peter Ingram BSc CEng MICE

Member of the Institution of Civil Engineers	1979
Overseas experience	1971 to 1973
Design office UK	1973 to 1976
Estimating and programming Saudi Arabia	1976 to 1977
Nigeria head office Lagos Akure	1977 to 1979
Ghana	1979 to 1981
Qatar	1981 to 1984
Director EPOC Ltd	1996—present



Don Hughes BSc CEng MIStructE

Member of Institute of Structural Engineers	1990
Civil Engineering Degree (Hons)	1994
Site Engineer, Road Projects in West England	1984 – 1986
Design Engineer UK	1986 - 1996
Director EPOC Ltd	1996 – present



Adolphe Bagishire BSc MICE

Member of Institute of Civil Engineers	2005
Bachelor of Science (Hons) Civil Engineering	2005
Structures Engineer (WSP Civils)	2005—present
Graduate Bridge Designer (Corus Railways Infrastructures)	2002—2005



Alphonse Balole BEng

Affiliate Member of the Institute of Mechanical Engineers	2003
Mechanical Engineering BEng Hons	2007
Quality Inspector	2007— present
Engineering Undergraduate— The University of Birmingham	2003– 2007
Quality Controller	2000 –2003



Mike Burke BA DipHE MA

Social Policy and Administration BA Hons	1983
Theology BA Hons	1989
Post-Graduate Certificate in Research Methods (Arts and Humanities)	2004
Masters of Arts by Research	2007
Manager in Community Health Services Barnet Health Authority	1983-1986
Curate - St. James, Anston, South Yorkshire	1989-1992
Vicar—Church of St. Columba, Sheffield	1992—2000
Vicar—St Philip & St. James, Gloucester	2000—present

Our Corporate Strategy: The need for road reconstruction

According to a recent 'International Rescue Committee'



Source: http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/shared/spl/hi/7/picture_gallery/08/africa_surviving_congo/html/3.stm

Mortality Survey Report¹, years of war and neglect have left the DR Congo in ruins and reaching a doctor or a hospital can sometimes take days.

Patients are typically carried on homemade stretchers on small jungle paths to see a doctor.

Even well maintained and modern roads can become impassable in extreme weather conditions. According to the World Bank, the majority of the DRC's road network are impassable even during the dry season. Access to markets and social and administrative services for most of the rural population is severely curtailed due to the absence of adequate transport services, which in



turn is due to the bad condition of roads. Poor road infrastructure has therefore been identified as a major constraint to economic development.



Source: Mortality in the Democratic Republic of Congo: An ongoing crisis'. International Rescue Committee. 21.01.08. p.3.

At present the road infrastructure of the DR Congo is declining year on year. Therefore it is imperative for both the health and economic prosperity of its peoples that the road infrastructure of the country be reconstructed and its road building capacity be strengthened.

1. 'Mortality in the Democratic Republic of Congo: An ongoing crisis'. International Rescue Committee. 21.01.08.

Our Corporate Strategy: The future for road construction in the region



Epoc Congo Ltd hopes to establish a long term partnership combining specialist engineering and business skills honed in both the UK and the DR Congo to delivery an improved high priority road network for the people of the DR Congo.

The DR Congo Government has identified 15,800 km of high priority road network to be provided within the country. Presently over 6,000 km of unpaved road is funded by the International Development Association, the European Commission and other funding agencies including the African Development Bank and the UK Department for International Development. Other prospective schemes in the region include the extension of the Trans African Highway from Beira to Lobito and the development of the Congo Pedicle from Mokambo to Chemba.

The Pro Routes Project is part of a package of schemes designed to reconstruct the economic infrastructure of the DR Congo in the context of the wider need for political and economic stabilisation in the region. The Pro Routes Project provides a starting point for Epoc Congo Limited to develop a strategic working relationship in the region with the various stakeholders involved and affected by the on going task of road reconstruction in the DR Congo.

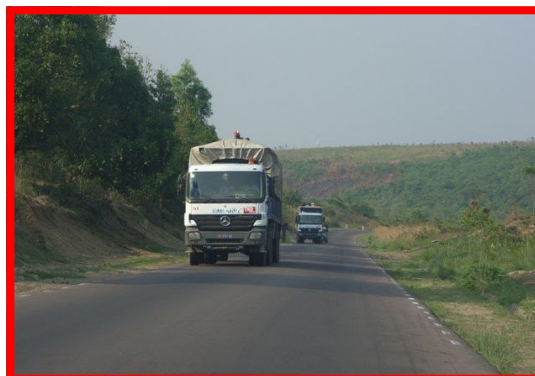
Our Corporate Strategy: Our ethos and long term commitment

"On the road from Kisangani, in the north-east Congo, to Bangui, Central African Republic. At present, road conditions are so poor that estimated traffic is very small; ...would probably not justify the use of scarce resources to upgrade this road. From a continental perspective, however, the situation looks very different....After upgrading, the baseline gravity model estimates that goods traded via this route would expand from a current value of \$US 6 million to \$US 738 million: a 123-fold increase."

P. Buys, U. Deichmann , D. Wheeler. 'Road Network Upgrading & Overland Trade Expansion in Sub Saharan Africa'. Development Research Group. World Bank. 2006. p.24.

With the international community having identified road construction and road re-opening as a strategic priority in support of the wider economic development of the region, there remains a strong demand for experienced engineering consultancy to support the long term capability building in the DR Congo. Epoc Congo Limited are committed to supporting these long term goals through building a partnership with local labour, funding agencies, lo-

cal communities, statutory authorities and NGO's to provide sustainable economic infrastructure development delivered in a manner that provides wide ranging economic benefit without compromising the biodiversity of the physical environment, community cohesion and the natural resources of the region.



Contact us

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