

- Logistic Parks and Light Industrial enclaves



Picture: Project Area of 25 x 24 Kilometers

The Government of Ghana will provide sixty thousand (60,000) acres of land for the aerotropolis and will take charge of obtaining licenses and permits that are required for the projects. It is expected that the proposed Terminal Building shall be used to facilitate ten million passengers per year by 2020.

please visit the video of the design study >>> [here](#)



REPORTS

Similar to other African countries there has recently been a huge growth of private universities in Ghana.

However many students are denied access because of universities' limited places.

In the past Years two thirds of all applicants to universities were denied. The strict selection is caused by a lack of university places, costing Ghana a lot of potential talent. Most senior high school graduates enter employment directly. The missing accordance between the needs of the labour market and the education sector constitutes one of the country's biggest problems.

Tertiary education in Ghana consists of universities, polytechnics and other institutions like specialised colleges. While all of the ten existing polytechnics are public, only eight out of 33 universities are. The public institutions are all under the responsibility of the National Council for Tertiary Education (NCTE). The National Accreditation Board provides a list of many public and private institutions registered with them.

In order to enroll at a university you have to pass an entrance examination. The anglophone West African countries (Ghana, Liberia, Nigeria, Sierra Leone and the Gambia) have tried to develop uniform standards among students finishing secondary schools in order to facilitate university entrance across their borders. Still, only around five percent of the relevant age group goes to university in Ghana. A number that is alarmingly low compared to developed countries. Talented students used to get free accommodation but nowadays you have to pay residential facility user fees. All universities allow you to achieve established titles such as Bachelors, Masters and PhDs. Nevertheless their recognition in other countries isn't assured.

Polytechnics require a degree of senior high school with a technical background or a general technical or crafts course at a technical institute. Polytechnics in Ghana are more practice-oriented than universities and provide middle-level professions. Unlike universities, there are no private polytechnics.

Apart from the low enrollment numbers, Ghana's tertiary education sector faces additional problems. As in the whole education sector, there are huge inequalities according to wealth. This is especially boosted by the fact that students who do not fulfill all requirements may get a place at universities simply by paying fees.

Furthermore there is still a huge majority of men that are enrolled. There is also a high ratio of students in



humanities compared to, for example, engineering and applied sciences.

University Education

Ghana's tertiary institutions enroll over 300,000 students in undergraduate, graduate, certificate and diploma programs in a full range of academic and professional fields. The National Accreditation Board lists 140 accredited institutions, both public and private, offering four-year degrees as well as two and three-year diplomas, which are not equivalent to Bachelor's degrees, but undergraduate transfer credit can be awarded. Twenty-six percent of tertiary students are enrolled in private institutions.

Ghanaian university admission is highly competitive, especially in fields such as medicine, engineering, law, business and pharmacy. The quality of education is considered reasonably high, evidence that human resources are more significant than material resources. In an effort to attract international enrollment, all Ghanaian universities operate on a modular, semester system. The University of Ghana is committed to 10% international population and attracts significant numbers of American students, as well as students from Africa and Europe. The United Nations University operates several programs on campus in fields of health and development.

Nigerains study

Information from the National Council for Tertiary Education (NCTE) puts the current statistics of Nigerian students in Ghanaian public universities at over 2,000 out of a total student enrolment of 77,005 in these schools.

This number from the NCTE significantly contradicts data presented by the governor of Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN), Mallam Sanusi Lamido Sanusi, which shows **that in 2011 there were about 71,000 Nigerians studying in Ghana**. Whatever the actual number, this figure (number of Nigerian students) is expected **to significantly rise in the coming academic years**.



How much influence does accommodation have on student recruitment?

Report by ICEF Monitor

The variety and quality of accommodations educational institutions offer are presumed to factor into the mix of reasons why prospective students select certain schools. Is this true? And if so, exactly how large of an influence is it?

Today, ICEF Monitor looks at student accommodation trends and their level of importance in turning student interest into an application.

The value of accommodations

There are two important aspects of accommodations beyond their role as physical housing:

Recruitment: schools that offer housing may enjoy an advantage in attracting international students.

Retention: various studies from US universities reveal that students who live on campus are more involved in campus life, have a lower dropout rate, and perform at a higher academic level than off-campus students.

The former is a reason why many US community colleges, although not typically known for housing, have begun to change course. The number of two-year institutions providing housing has risen from 225 in 2000 to nearly 400 as of last year.

Tompkins Cortland Community College in Dryden, NY, is one such school. Its director of residence life and judicial affairs Darese Doskal-Scaffido told *Diverse*:

“The residence halls have definitely added to our enrolment and diversified our campus.”

Looking toward Asia, Takushoku University in Japan opened a dormitory in April 2012 at its Hachioji campus in western Tokyo, and this year the facility received three times as many applicants as there were available rooms. University official Mitsuo Nakahora told *The Japan Times*, “The existence of this dorm apparently convinces students to consider Takushoku as an option when they apply for university.”

Shibaura Institute of Technology recently opened a dorm as well, and the school’s general manager of academic affairs Yong Jin Chung, also speaking to *The Japan Times*, said:

“Stable housing supply for students from abroad is part of the strategy to increase the number of international students and for the globalisation of our university.”

A lack of suitable accommodation is certainly hindering recruitment efforts at New Zealand’s Otago



Polytechnic's Cromwell campus. Central Otago director Jean Tilleyshort explained that students are choosing not to study there because backpacker accommodation is the only option for some: "We know that there are a number of people who have come and talked to us that were keen to do the programmes, who haven't ... [enrolled] because they haven't found a suitable place [to stay]."

Catering to specific students

The same message emerges from campus administrators around the globe: housing draws international students. Because of this, not only are community colleges adding dorms, but at universities in countries where student accommodation is typically offered, the number and quality of those lodgings is increasing, and the diversity of the amenities offered is widening.

For example, at the University of Colorado's Boulder Campus, the new residence hall Kittredge Central features an environmentally sustainable design and caters to students in the school's engineering programme by offering, among other specifics, Spanish language immersion.

Diane Sieber, associate dean for education in the university's College of Engineering and Applied Science, said of the new facility, "While there are successful residence halls for engineers at other universities, [our global engineering programme] – offering cultural and linguistic immersive learning and a focus on global development – is the first programme of its kind."

A different example comes from University College Cork, in Cork, Ireland. There, beginning this autumn, students will be able to apply for residency in an alcohol-free dorm. The measure was conceived as way to combat binge drinking, but also represents another attempt by university administrators to cater to students' specific living or cultural requirements.

Universities have tailored options for specific student groups by providing residences that are co-ed or single sex, secular or faith-based, and more. For example, at Reed College in Oregon, students can choose to live in "theme" dorms that focus on co-operative living, Japanese or Arabic culture, science, outdoor activities, literature, etc. Language immersion residence halls are now a fixture at many universities, and faith-based housing is spreading, too.

And it's not just housing facilities that are modifying and expanding options based on student demand; high-quality food service also provides a competitive advantage to institutions these days. "You cannot be one of the premiere universities in the country, and not have the dining programme be on a par with that," proclaims Eric Montell, Stanford University's dining executive director.

"In many cases, he adds, it is students themselves who drive these changes. 'They are much more interested in food today than their parents were. They think about where food comes from, and about the social justice



aspects of food production. They think about environmental sustainability, and healthier eating, certainly. They come from all over the globe.”

From vegan and vegetarian options to halal meat or kosher meals to food allergies, the variety and quality of food options can certainly add to a student’s college experience, and even help stave off homesickness for internationals.

Furthermore, when marketing to parents, recruiters might find that amenities such as healthy eating options, modern sports facilities, and safe housing choices can appeal not just in a practical way, but in an emotional sense as well.

With so many residence hall options, it’s important for recruiters to understand which features might attract students and which might repel. While some applicants might find, for example, gender neutral housing uncontroversial, for others it might violate their personal preferences or even their religion.

In addition to confirming on paper what is being offered, in order to get 100% acquainted with prospective housing, students and agents should seek to visit the facilities either in person, or, where offered, via virtual tour.

What does research show about housing’s importance?

Despite the boom in student residence construction, there is conflicting research about whether accommodation quality affects school choice.

According to property investor advisors Knight Knox International, today’s university students see traditional residence halls as inadequate. An increasing number of students, especially those from overseas, want boutique style accommodations, and such facilities have higher occupancy rates.

On the opposite side of the issue, economists Kevin Rask and Amanda Griffith, of Colorado College and Wake Forest University respectively, conducted research on applicants to US universities they claim refutes the idea that students’ school choices are meaningfully affected by dorm quality or other amenities. Their research shows that price and prestige remain the most important factors in school choice.

Rask and Griffith’s report concludes that spending money on amenities simply shifts costs at a time when schools might be better served keeping financial burdens down. Their findings suggest that the race universities are engaged in to upgrade student services, dorms, food services, and other amenities may be having little impact on prospective applicants’ college choices.

Though Rask and Griffith’s study is strictly US-based, its central conclusion is mirrored in certain other countries. For example, an article in the UK’s Independent cautions that companies may be focusing too much on upper tier accommodations, and advises parents and students to look beyond plasma TVs and pay more



attention to decision making criteria such as transport links and total cost for housing and food.

And in July ICEF Monitor discussed the slide of India's rupee and what effect it's having on Indian students (who comprised 11% of all global graduates in 2012). International students may be attracted by various housing options, but they must also balance cost savings, especially in countries where a weak or falling currency value makes international exchange rates a challenge for them.

Another example comes from the Netherlands, where university students are increasingly choosing cheaper housing with shared facilities, in this case due to the influence of domestic policy regarding financial aid. While this report relates to local rather than foreign students, it does indicate that some students are putting cost before comfort – not too surprising given the influence cost of living has on overall affordability.

In the end, exactly how important accommodation type is to prospective students will vary based a student's home country, culture, expectations, financial situation and personal preferences.

March of the investors

Student accommodations have also drawn the attention of the international private sector, which is sinking large sums into the student housing market as tight university budgets prompt schools to focus on core functions.

According to Financial Times, student housing emerged in 2012 as the best-performing asset in both the US and UK real estate markets.

Real estate company Savills uncovered a significant shortage of student housing across France, with approximately 342,500 student rooms (in public student accommodation, dedicated social housing, university halls on campus and private student housing) to supply 1.3 million students wishing to live independently.

In Germany, the private company Youniq has over 3,700 units in operation or under construction, and plans to build and market 1,500 to 2,500 new student housing units a year.

Meanwhile, the UK company Crosslane working with the German company Bauer Capital have teamed up to build student accommodations, and the Victus European Student Accommodation Fund plans to acquire, add 3,000-5,000 student beds throughout Germany over the next five years.

And in Africa, the University of Namibia School of Medicine has invited the private sector to take part in the construction of more hostels to accommodate its growing student population, now numbering over 17,000.

These are but some of the examples from countries around the globe, suggesting that the sheer profitability of the student housing market will bring more facilities with even greater variety as both private investors and institutions of all forms seek an edge. After all, if there is one conclusion we can draw, it's that when it comes to student housing, there is something for everyone.



What is the Energy Crisis?

The energy crisis is the concern that the world's demands on the limited natural resources that are used to power industrial society are diminishing as the demand rises. These natural resources are in limited supply. While they do occur naturally, it can take hundreds of thousands of years to replenish the stores. Governments and concerned individuals are working to make the use of renewable resources a priority, and to lessen the irresponsible use of natural supplies through increased conservation.

The energy crisis is a broad and complex topic. Most people don't feel connected to its reality unless the price of gas at the pump goes up or there are lines at the gas station. The energy crisis is something that is ongoing and getting worse, despite many efforts. The reason for this is that there is not a broad understanding of the complex causes and solutions for the energy crisis that will allow for an effort to happen that will resolve it.

According to the Wikipedia,

“An energy crisis is any great bottleneck (or price rise) in the supply of energy resources to an economy. In popular literature though, it often refers to one of the energy sources used at a certain time and place, particularly those that supply national electricity grids or serve as fuel for vehicles. “

How Real is the Energy Crisis?

During election years there is a renewed debate on how “real” the energy crisis is in the world. One side will always say it is based on faulty science and politics; the other will say that the other side is basing their findings on junk science and political interests. The best way to sum up the reality of the energy crisis is that you cannot have growing demands on limited resources without eventually running out of the resource. That is just common sense. What is really at play in the discussion about how real the energy crisis is concerns the perception of responsibility for the future. There is no real energy crisis if you are not concerned about life after your time on Earth is gone. There is a very real energy crisis if you care about the future that the next generations will inherit.

Causes of the Energy Crisis

It would be easy to point a finger at one practice or industry and lay the blame for the entire energy crisis at their door, but that would be a very naive and unrealistic interpretation of the cause of the crisis.

1. Overconsumption: The energy crisis is a result of many different strains on our natural resources, not just one. There is a strain on fossil fuels such as oil, gas and coal due to overconsumption – which then in turn can put a strain on our water and oxygen resources by causing pollution.



2. **Overpopulation:** Another cause of the crisis has been the steady increase in the world's population and its demands for fuel and products. No matter what type of food or products you choose to use – from fair trade and organic to those made from petroleum products in a sweatshop – not one of them is made or transported without a significant drain on our energy resources.
3. **Poor Infrastructure:** Aging infrastructure of power generating equipment is yet another reason for energy shortage. Most of the energy producing firms keep on using outdated equipment that restricts the production of energy. It is the responsibility of utilities to keep on upgrading the infrastructure and set a high standard of performance.
4. **Unexplored Renewable Energy Options:** Renewable energy still remains unused in most of the countries. Most of the energy comes from non-renewable sources like coal. It still remains the top choice to produce energy. Unless we give renewable energy a serious thought, the problem of energy crisis cannot be solved. Renewable energy sources can reduce our dependence on fossil fuels and also help to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.
5. **Delay in Commissioning of Power Plants:** In few countries, there is a significant delay in commissioning of new power plants that can fill the gap between demand and supply of energy. The result is that old plants come under huge stress to meet the daily demand for power. When supply doesn't match demand, it results in load shedding and breakdown.
6. **Wastage of Energy:** In most parts of the world, people do not realize the importance of conserving energy. It is only limited to books, internet, newspaper ads, lip service and seminars. Unless we give it a serious thought, things are not going to change anytime sooner. Simple things like switching off fans and lights when not in use, using maximum daylight, walking instead of driving for short distances, using CFL instead of traditional bulbs, proper insulation for leakage of energy can go a long way in saving energy. Read here about 151 ways of saving energy.
7. **Poor Distribution System:** Frequent tripping and breakdown are result of a poor distribution system.
8. **Major Accidents and Natural Calamities:** Major accidents like pipeline burst and natural calamities like eruption of volcanoes, floods, earthquakes can also cause interruptions to energy supplies. The huge gap between supply and demand of energy can raise the price of essential items which can give rise to inflation.
9. **Wars and Attacks:** Wars between countries can also hamper supply of energy specially if it happens in Middle East countries like Saudi Arabia, Iraq, Iran, Kuwait, UAE or Qatar. That's what happened during 1990 Gulf war when price of oil reached its peak causing global shortages and created major problem for energy consumers.
10. **Miscellaneous Factors:** Tax hikes, strikes, military coup, political events, severe hot summers or cold winters

can cause sudden increase in demand of energy and can choke supply. A strike by unions in an oil producing firm can definitely cause an energy crisis.

Possible Solutions of the Energy Crisis

Many of the possible solutions are already in place today, but they have not been widely adopted.

1. **Move Towards Renewable Resources:** The best possible solution is to reduce the world's dependence on non-renewable resources and to improve overall conservation efforts. Much of the industrial age was created using fossil fuels, but there is also known technology that uses other types of renewable energies – such as steam, solar and wind. The major concern isn't so much that we will run out of gas or oil, but that the use of coal is going to continue to pollute the atmosphere and destroy other natural resources in the process of mining the coal that it has to be replaced as an energy source. This isn't easy as many of the leading industries use coal, not gas or oil, as their primary source of power for manufacturing.
2. **Buy Energy Efficient products:** Replace traditional bulbs with CFL's and LED's. They use less watts of electricity and last longer. If millions of people across the globe use LED's and CFL's for residential and commercial purposes, the demand for energy can go down and an energy crisis can be averted.
3. **Lighting Controls:** There are a number of new technologies out there that make lighting controls that much more interesting and they help to save a lot of energy and cash in the long run. Preset lighting controls, slide lighting, touch dimmers, integrated lighting controls are few of the lighting controls that can help to conserve energy and reduce overall lighting costs.
4. **Easier Grid Access:** People who use different options to generate power must be given permission to plug into the grid and getting credit for power you feed into it. The hassles of getting credit of supplying surplus power back into the grid should be removed. Apart from that, subsidy on solar panels should be given to encourage more people to explore renewable options.
5. **Energy Simulation:** Energy simulation software can be used by big corporates and corporations to redesign building unit and reduce running business energy cost. Engineers, architects and designers could use this design to come with most energy efficient building and reduce carbon footprint.
6. **Perform Energy Audit:** Energy audit is a process that helps you to identify the areas where your home or office is losing energy and what steps you can take to improve energy efficiency. Energy audit when done by a professional can help you to reduce your carbon footprint, save energy and money and avoid energy crisis.
7. **Common Stand on Climate Change:** Both developed and developing countries should adopt a common stand on climate change. They should focus on reducing greenhouse gas emissions through an effective cross border mechanism. With current population growth and over consumption of resources, the consequences of

global warming and climate change cannot be ruled out. Both developed and developing countries must focus on emissions cuts to cut their emission levels to half from current levels by 2050.

What is Being Done Today?

There are many global initiatives that are working towards resolving the energy crisis. This has taken the form of increased regulation and restriction on carbon emissions, the promotion of greener manufacturing and construction projects, the funding of research into hybrid technologies and more sustainable technologies and more. Locally, more communities are seeing beyond the recycle bin and recognizing that how the community uses their local resources is important too. More community gardens, parks and farmer's markets are springing up not only as a means of introducing more sustainable elements into people's, but as an important part of educating the public about the importance of resources.

Renewable Energy

How Do We Turn Waste Into Clean Energy?

All of ReEnergy's green power generation facilities need fuel. The biomass material we use can come from many sources, but typically includes green wood, recovered wood from urban uses or construction and demolition debris, and waste tires.

Such items, if not used as fuel, are often thrown into already bulging landfills or left to decay on the forest floor, which can contribute to forest fires.

We have hands in both sides of the waste-to-energy process: Our recycling facilities are creating biomass fuel that can be used at facilities like our renewable energy facilities. Our renewable energy facilities are using biomass fuel to generate electricity for use in the communities we serve.

Every day, ReEnergy uses biomass to make renewable energy

The biomass material that we use for fuel is loaded into boilers at ReEnergy's green energy facilities and heated in a highly controlled and regulated process that creates steam. The steam, under pressure, is fed into a turbine that spins and drives a generator to create electricity.

Using biomass to generate power prevents more than 30 million tons a year of organic waste – from construction and demolition activities, used tires, and papermaking byproducts, for instance – from being landfilled in the United States.

In addition, across the United States the biomass power industry recovers and removes 68 million tons of forest waste a year, allowing the healthy forest to grow and dramatically reducing the threat of forest fires.

And unlike other renewable power sources – such as solar and wind – a biomass power plant can operate 24/7, supplying a consistent and reliable and renewable stream of energy.

ReEnergy Holdings' recycling businesses provide a constant source of fuel for biomass power facilities, as well as material for other industries that recycle and reuse material to make asphalt paving, new cardboard and drywall, and recycled plastic and metal products.