



Tanzania's economy is booming, with the construction industry and demand for cement being key drivers in boosting the economy

Commissioning the Dangote Group's new cement plant in the Mtwara region will help facilitate further growth and help Tanzania meet its local cement needs but will also provide supplies for export. The plant, set for completion in 2015, will produce three million tonnes of cement per year, approximately half of Tanzania's current production. It will be powered by a 75-MW coal-based power plant - one of only four facilities worldwide to use coal to fire its kiln.

Aurecon has been appointed as the local engineering consultant on this greenfields project and will be providing civil, structural, mechanical, electrical and plumbing (MEP) engineering design review as well as registration and construction supervision services.

Ensuring buildability

Craig Wood, Aurecon's country manager, Tanzania, says the project has been challenging: "Because the design of the plant originated in China with external design review from America, Aurecon had to ensure the final design was an applicable and constructible solution for Tanzania. To do so, Aurecon

utilised expertise from its local and global teams to ensure the buildability of the design to local standards,” explains Wood. “Processing and standardising the information originating from designers and reviewers spread across the globe was particularly challenging. Advising our client on adapting their standards to comply with Tanzanian standards has been a value-add to the facility,” says Anna Munyagi, Aurecon’s incountry coordination engineer.

Aurecon formed a consortium of architects and quantity surveyors in Tanzania to ensure that the design, material selection and standards were achievable within local conditions and taking into account local constraints.

“In addition, Aurecon is also managing critical Tanzanian registration and compliance matters, including obtaining approvals on local legislation for the plant. Mtwara is set to become a significant infrastructure hub to support the emerging large industries in Southern Tanzanian/Northern Mozambique. As Aurecon is also involved in the Mtwara Town Master plan we have a good platform to engage the local authorities,” says Munyagi.

Critical project oversight

Harun Mopendela, a civil engineer with Aurecon in Tanzania says, “Aurecon is playing a critical oversight role throughout the project’s final design and construction phases and is maximising involvement of its local staff to draw on their local knowledge and experience.”

“Increased construction and a subsequent rise in cement demand in Tanzania places the Dangote Group in the ideal position to facilitate growth within the country, as well as in neighbouring African economies,” concludes Wood.

Sources: [Ermis Marques](#), [Concrete Trends](#)