



**BUILDING AND CONSTRUCTION
MATERIALS – GUIDE TO QUALITY
SANDCRETE BLOCK MANUFACTURING**

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THE GAMBIA STANDARDS BUREAU

The Gambia Standards Bureau is a statutory Government specialized Agency established by The Gambia Standards Bureau Act 2010 to standardize products, methods, systems and for connected matters. Hence, the Bureau is the sole National Standardization Body. As such, it has been a member of International Standardization Bodies such as the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) since 2011, International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) and the Standards and Metrology Institute for Islamic Countries (SMIIC) from 2012.

The objectives of the Bureau, as specified in its Act, are to: establish and promulgate standards for imported and locally-produced goods; facilitate domestic and international trade; foster and promote standards both for industrial efficiency and advancing economic development; promote the health and safety of consumers; enhance international cooperation in relation to standards and standardization. Thus, the National Quality Policy details the responsibilities of the Bureau in Standardization, Metrology and Conformity Assessment services in Testing, Inspection and Certification.

Therefore, the functions, of the Bureau are to define, prepare, publish, modify or amend Standards Specifications as well information-dissemination of standards. In addition to providing Testing, Inspection and Certification services for goods, systems and processes independently or in relation to conformity with its Standards Mark, the Bureau also conducts training and research. In Metrology, the Bureau serves as the custodian of primary national reference measurement standards through its National Metrology Laboratories and conducts calibration of measurement devices and physical standards.

The development of Gambian Standards (GAMS) is carried out by the Bureau through Technical Committees composed of a balanced representation of stakeholders, as may be appropriate to the subject in question. The Bureau ensures that Standards are developed in accordance with the *ISO_IEC_Guide_21-1_2005: Regional or National adoption of International Standards and other International deliverables* and the *World Trade Organization Code of good practice for the preparation, adoption and application of standards*. To the greatest extent possible, Gambian Standards are aligned to or are adoptions of relevant international standards.

For further information on and copies of Gambian Standards, please contact The Gambia Standards Bureau.

TECHNICAL COMMITTEE RESPONSIBLE: BUILDING AND CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS COMMITTEE

The Building and construction materials Committee developed this Standard Specification Guide to Quality Sandcrete Block Manufacturing. The Committee was set up by Bureau in 2016 to work on the development of national standards in the building and civil engineering field.

The BCM consists of representatives from the following Institutions/Organizations:

- Ministry of Transport, Works and Infrastructure
- National Road Authority
- Department of Physical Planning
- Association of Gambian construction Contractors (GACCON)
- University of the Gambia
- Gambia Technical Training Institute
- Insight Training Institute
- GACEM
- Social Security and Housing Finance Cooperation
- GAMWORKS
- Association Real Estates Companies
- Gambia Fire and Rescue Services
- Jah Oil Company
- Salam Cement Company
- Gambia Competition and Consumer Protection Commission
- ABSA Consultancy
- Finish Profiles the Gambia

The Gambia Standards Bureau is the Secretary to the Building and Construction Materials Technical Committee.

Foreword

The Gambia Standards Bureau is the National Statutory Body responsible for the development and promulgation of Gambian Standards.

The Gambia Standards Bureau is a member of the African Organization for Standardization (ARSO), the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) and an affiliate member of the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC).

This Gambia Standards is the standard for Building and Construction Materials – Guide to Quality Sandcrete Block Manufacturing. It lays down the essential requirements to which such blocks must conform.

The National Committee responsible for this standard is the Technical Committee for Building and Construction Materials.

Building and Construction Materials – Guide to Quality Sandcrete Block Manufacturing

0. Introduction

This guide is a simplified version of the book entitled Hints on the Manufactured blocks to help Sandcrete block manufacturer to produce Sandcrete blocks of good quality.