

## FOREWORD

We are pleased to have these selected articles, as part of the Journal of Natural and Applied Sciences (JONAS) special issue. On behalf of the organising committee, I express satisfaction in the Journal's interest in publishing outputs from our DII -2021 Conference whose focus is to support sustainable infrastructure delivery in Africa. The DII-2021 conference is part of the DII Conference series on Infrastructure Development and Investment in Africa. It aims to provide an international forum for leaders, researchers, practitioners, and other stakeholders in infrastructure development to discuss and devise ways of maximising benefits from infrastructure development in Africa, and achieve outputs that will inform policy. The 2021 conference, themed "Building Smart, Resilient and Sustainable Infrastructure in Developing Countries" addressed a broad range of topics. With a specific focus, this Journal takes a cursory examination of imperative issues such as health and safety in the built environment, and renewable energy to achieve sustainable development in Africa. With global concerns on climate change and its detrimental effects on the environment, one of the feature papers also examined construction waste management practices in the industry and another one looked at re-examining sustainability awareness of professionals in the industry as a direction towards sustainable development. The special issue further covers thematic areas of contractual disputes and contractual claims, financial implementation of Public-Private Partnership (PPP) projects and performance of contracting firms. The topics were carefully selected to evaluate and draw lessons on sustainability and sustainable development in the built environment. Warm gratitude is extended to the authors, who have successfully gone through a two-tier peer-review process to have their papers accepted and published. The peer-review process would have been impossible without the support of the Scientific and Technical Review Committees (STC) members. The organising committee is thankful for this voluntary service that is so central to the quality of the accepted papers. Special thank you also goes to the Editor-in-Chief and Editorial Staff for all the diligent efforts to further the discourse on sustainable development in Africa, and the great academic output globally renowned for with the Journal.

Thank you,

**Innocent Musonda**

**Erastus Mwanaumo**