

## DESMOND BANTEE



My name is Desmond Bantee, a second-year student at Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology (KNUST), pursuing a Bachelor of Science in Land Economy.

I live in a deprived village in the Upper West Region of Ghana and my dream is to acquire the requisite knowledge and skills that would enable me to help in the formulation and implementation of policies that would improve the socio-economic wellbeing of my people while maintaining the much-required balance between the natural and built environment.

This ignited my interest in Land Economy, an intellectually challenging programme with excellent combination of economics, law and a sustainable balance between the natural and built environment. This course, which is relevant as it is important especially in this 21st century

of rapidly changing situations of life, would offer me a variety of skills and knowledge in different yet crucial aspects of our society and contribute to my long-term dream of impacting my community and country at large.

After a successful completion of the senior high school and living in the village, my chances of succeeding became slim due to the financial constraints of my family. I thought this dream would never materialize given the financial status of my family. Thanks to Educational Pathways International (EPI), my hopes became heightened, and I could then sense my ambition transforming into reality after I was awarded a scholarship after successfully gaining admission into a premier University in Ghana, Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology (KNUST), to pursue BSc Land Economy.

Aside the financial assistance that beneficiaries of Educational Pathways International receive, we also benefit from intensive training sessions on crucial aspects of our lives to make us wholesome graduates with the requisite skills and capabilities to make significant impact in our communities and country at large. We attend monthly meetings every semester to be trained on areas such as CV preparation, public speaking, effective time management and how to adequately prepare for interviews.

EPI has impacted so greatly in my life such that I have developed confidence in public speaking. I can prepare an accurate CV and effectively manage my time. This comes from the lively and interactive discussions during our monthly meetings to enable everyone comprehend the concepts being taught, and how we can apply them to our daily living such that others can emulate.

I will forever be grateful to EPI not only for the financial support but also for the sense of belonging, love, care and encouragement they offer me.