



Led by Dr. Tagwa Musa, Sudan University of Science and Technology Launches First Project ECHO Engineering Program

[Sudan University of Science and Technology \(SUST\)](#), in partnership with Peace Engineering and [Project ECHO](#), launched the first ECHO program for engineering, on Saturday, July 2 at 11 a.m. Central Africa Time.

The new ECHO program, called the Community Engineering Response Team (CERT), is a community of practice for senior engineering students to learn from experts in Peace Engineering to apply STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Mathematics) principles, sustainable practices, cultural sensitivity, and innovation, to promote and support peace.

The first learning series is focused on waste management, as uncollected waste poses a significant problem for communities in Sudan.

From this ECHO, students will be equipped to develop their senior projects and launch entrepreneurial activities for job creation. As part of the CERT, these students will go out to the community and work together to bring their projects to life for socio-economic development and community service.

“CERT ECHO bridges academia and the real world, enabling engineers and practitioners from multiple disciplines to help their communities and build local expertise, leading toward a more sustainable, stable, equitable and peaceful world,” Donna Koechner, global Peace Engineering ECHO program manager for the Peace Engineering Consortium says.

“We are thrilled this team has launched an ECHO program for engineering - the first of its kind. It demonstrates the ECHO Model can be leveraged to tackle today's pressing issues, across geographies and disciplines,” says Dr. Sanjeev Arora, founder and director of Project ECHO. Originally created to increase access to treatment for hepatitis C patients, [today the ECHO Model](#) is used to disseminate knowledge in public health, education, journalism and more.

CERT is modeled after the highly successful Community Medical Response Team (CMRT) ECHO, run by the [University of Nebraska Medical Center Sudan Global ECHO Hub](#). The CMRT led a COVID-19 vaccination effort reaching more than 20,000 people in Sudan. Led by Dr. Tagwa Musa, faculty of SUST and member of Peace Engineering, CERT is partially supported by the [Sustainable Development and Response](#)

[Organization](#), and collaborates with faculty, staff and students from the Peace Engineering program at the University of New Mexico School of Engineering as well as Peace Engineering Consortium members.

