



AAK | PROMOTING EXCELLENCE
IN THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

Merry Christmas & Happy Holidays!

A Message From the President



As the year 2024 draws to a close, we reflect with immense pride and gratitude on the milestones we have achieved as the Architectural Association of Kenya (AAK) in advancing our mission of promoting excellence in the built environment.

This has been a year of transformation, innovation, and collaboration. Globally, the spotlight has been on Artificial Intelligence (AI) and its profound impact across industries, including the built environment. AI is redefining our traditional practices, urging us as professionals to adapt and innovate. To champion this shift, we released the Status of the Built Environment Report 2024, themed Harnessing Technology and AI in the Construction Sector, which provides insights into the opportunities and challenges of this new era. Please read the report [here](#).

We celebrate the launch of the www.mAAKtaba.info platform, a repository for projects in the architectural field, providing a resource for learning, collaboration, and documentation of work in the built environment.

Our continued advocacy for the regulation of all professionals in the built environment and our engagements with key stakeholders has positioned AAK as a leading voice in shaping the construction industry. We remain committed to advancing the establishment of a Code Council, to align the implementation of the National Building Code 2024 with global industry advancements.

Partnerships have been central to our success this year. Through meaningful collaborations, we have accomplished remarkable milestones:

Partnering with Habitat for Humanity Kenya to deliver the AAK Annual Convention.

- Partnering with Duracoat to celebrate and recognize outstanding achievements in architecture.
- Relaunching the 3IF Program with Kounkuey Design Initiative (KDI) at the World Urban Forum.
- Holding the Bus Shelters Design Competition with the Kenya Urban Roads Authority (KURA).
- Running impactful campaigns like Je, Una Mjengo? and Mulika Mjengo, in partnership with the Kenya Alliance of Residents Association (KARA)
- Signing landmark MOUs with various bodies including the Project Management International Kenya (PMI - Kenya), Kenya Green Building Society (KGBS) and the Antigua and Barbuda Institute of Architects (ABIA).

These collaborations underscore our commitment to fostering innovation and inclusivity in the built environment

This year, AAK was honored at the Association of Professional Societies In East Africa (APSEA) Awards, receiving the Collaborations & Partnership, and Workplace Diversity & Inclusion Awards. These accolades are a testament to our unwavering dedication to excellence and partnership.





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In line with our mission to provide value to our members, we launched the AAK Benevolent Fund, which supports members during times of bereavement. We encourage all members to subscribe to this initiative [here](#).

Our chapter activities, have showcased the diversity and vibrancy of our membership. Highlights include the Golf Tournament, CPD events, Build Tours, the prestigious AAK Duracoat Awards of Excellence in Architecture 2024, and the Landscape Architects Chapter Symposium. The Urban Thinkers Campus (UTC) organized by the Town Planners Chapter was another flagship event that brought together diverse stakeholders to envision holistic housing solutions for inclusive and sustainable urban futures.

On the international front, AAK has strengthened its engagements with key global and regional organizations. This year, we collaborated with The American Institute of Architects (AIA), Royal Academy of Engineering, the Africa Association of Quantity Surveyors (AAQS), the Rwanda Institute of Architects (RIA), the Uganda Society of Architects, the Architectural Association of Tanzania, and the Commonwealth Association of Architects (CAA) among others. We also participated in the international activities including the International Union of Architects (UIA) Symposium, the International Federation of Landscape Architects (IFLA) Symposium, Woodlife Sweden Exhibition, the African Urban Forum & the World Urban Forum. These partnerships have elevated AAK's voice on global platforms and ensured we have a voice in conversations on innovation, sustainability, and excellence in the built environment.

Student mentorship has also been a cornerstone of our efforts this year. We have engaged with academic institutions to mentor young professionals including secondary and primary schools. These initiatives are key to nurturing the next generation of built environment professionals, and we look forward to extending these efforts to more schools in the coming year.

We encourage all our members to renew their annual subscriptions, consider upgrading their memberships and invite new professionals to join us in our journey of growth and impact.

We will be launching our Strategic Plan 2025- 2030 to guide our next steps as a leader in the advocacy for the built environment and invite you to join us in its preparation in quarter one of 2025. This same quarter will also see a change of guard at the association when we will hold our bi-annual elections.

Looking forward to 2025, we remain committed to addressing critical industry issues, including advancing sustainable urban development, enhancing building safety, and fostering a culture of ethical practice and innovation.

None of these achievements would have been possible without the dedication of our members, the diligence of the secretariat and the support of our valued partners. Thank You!

As the holiday season approaches, we extend our warmest wishes to you and your loved ones. May this season bring joy, rest and inspiration as we look ahead to another remarkable year.

Please note that the Secretariat Office will close on Friday, December 20, 2024, at 4:00 PM and will resume on Wednesday, January 8, 2025, at 8:00 AM.

Thank you for being part of the AAK community. Merry Christmas and a Prosperous New Year!

**Festive regards,
Florence Nyole,
President, Architectural Association of Kenya (AAK)**



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