



THE Architect

THE OFFICIAL MAGAZINE OF THE ARCHITECTS CHAPTER, ARCHITECTURAL ASSOCIATION OF KENYA



ARCHITECTURE FOR MOBILITY

PLUS: RIBA EVENT REPORT • ARCH JERRY NDONG PROFILE • STANDARD GAUGE RAILWAY PROJECT • AAK EVENTS • LIST OF MEMBERS



Chocolate Lifestyle wave at Fairacres Phase2 in Kareng'ata - the result of great coordination from start to completion

MRM'S LIFESTYLE AT FAIR ACRES

CRAFTING A BRAND BEYOND PRODUCT!

Fair Acres Estate, Phase 2 is a tasteful gated community of 16 Villas set in the upmarket suburb of Kareng'ata, South-West Nairobi. The developer was keen to build on the runaway success of the sold-out phase 1 delivered a few years before and continue a tradition of excellence in residential developments.

In a market-place that is now littered with similar-looking roofing products and marketers proclaiming a copy-cat message to woo the clientele, the professional project team & the contractor sought to deliver long term performance and value both to the developer and the investors that would take up the units. The products chosen and their application therefore had to meet stringent criteria to qualify for this project. But beyond mere product, the team needed the reassurance of dealing with a time-tested and proven supplier who could deliver on both the short and long-term product parameters.

The developer sought continuity of the contemporary design language already established in the earlier phase of the project to appeal to the targeted urbane middle-class within a market that is increasingly spoilt for choice. Differentiation from the common red tile colours was critical to their product offering and MRM met this expectation with LIFESTYLE wave in chocolate finish. The eventual look and feel is one of elegance and modernity. The earthy chocolate gives the complex a grounding and harmony within its natural wooded setting.



A unit at Fairacres nears completion; the Lifestyle crown at home in the exclusive setting



Lifestyle at Fair Acres - exceeding duty, tile by tile, to deliver an enduring brand

Over and above the supply of a product, even one as elegant as LIFESTYLE, MRM needed to demonstrate to the entire team an understanding of the project cycle from the planning stage, execution and after sales & installation requirements and work to delight the customer at all stages. But this was and remains familiar territory for MRM after all! Over their 55 year history, MRM have worked with industry to deliver

unique and customized solutions to projects in over 50 countries across 5 continents. A rare feat indeed for a country with a nascent steel industry in comparison to dominant giants in America, Europe and Asia! Time and again, MRM has customized all product parameters – base steel protection & thickness, finishing coat specifications, colour formulation, sizes & quantities - to meet specific customer requirements. Only MRM in its market segment can offer this flexibility across such a vast product line that it offers the market. And moving beyond the actual sale, MRM has over time developed a keen ability to coordinate with the clients and their consultants on design & utility advisories, pre-supply site inspection visits to verify conditions that may impact warranties, mutually beneficial terms & delivery schedules to ensure construction continuity. All these were what made this supply a success story.

As the teams move on to the next development, all are agreed that in MRM, they have a true partner who is a key cog to the project's success in the period before, during and after the sale is done. Because in their long journey to building a stand-out brand, MRM have embraced an existential truth; that value is what remains in the customer's heart long after the marketing campaign, the advertisement has dimmed the lights and gone to sleep. At Fair Acres, we believe LIFESTYLE will continue to yield value to all stakeholders for generations to come.

**Lifestyle**
beauty that lasts a lifetime



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1967 - 2017



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For more information and submission of projects, please visit awards.aak.or.ke
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The entry fee per project for the award is a non-refundable **Ksh. 2,000**.

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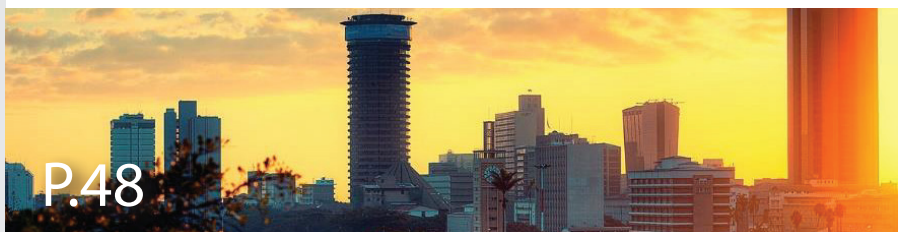
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Our Role in the economy



ARCHITECTURE & MOVEMENT

Every time you travel using public means you will always be welcomed by an architectural piece which could be as simple as a bus stop shed or as complex as an airport terminal. For decades, these structures have been developed as architectural marvels, a pointer to the spirit of the context in which they occur. Airports, Harbors and Railway stations whether transit or terminal are key elements in the fabric of any urban area. Linkages, as described by Lynch, connect all the other elements of the city and these could be motorized or non-motorized. Nairobi is hardly walkable despite having a large populace that walks to work, hence a 'walking nation'; there are barely any properly paved walkways or appropriate cycling lanes, and above all else traffic jam is still a nightmare.

Not far across our borders in Tanzania, Dar Es Salaam boasts of their Bus Rapid Transit System which is linear lending itself to the city's linear structure and connecting the busiest roads to form a spine for efficient movement within the city. We could learn from the success of their system and implement our own to cater for the masses that use public transportation. Looking back at our previous issues, how do we maintain resilience with the challenges of mobility in our cities?

In this issue, we highlight architecture for mobility in response to the recent infrastructural developments across the country. The Standard Gauge Railway was recently completed and officially launched by the President, HE. Uhuru Kenyatta as Madaraka Express on 31st May 2017. We take a closer look at the archetype of all the railway stations along the line from Mombasa to Nairobi and the conceptual interpretation of the context in the design of these buildings. Road Networks have also been expanded and in turn opened up many areas

throughout the country to economic activity, trade and commerce. Improvement of several transportation hubs such as airports and harbors, has increased capacity for trade and tourism in our country. Several transport management bodies have been established to provide policies and enforce regulations within the transport sector. The Non-Motorized Transportation Policy was launched by the Nairobi City County Government in March 2017 where the Landscape Architects Chapter played a major role in making it a reality. With all these, there is yet hope for better mobility across the country.

A new season is here with us. The country is going through elections and this has coincided with the elections for the Association. The Architects Chapter elected a new council in February to run for the next two years under the leadership of Arch. Wilson Mugambi. We also have a new governing council in place headed by Arch. Emma Miloyo, the first female president ever to be elected in the history of AAK. Indeed, if the government is to learn a thing or two about the elections, the Association has made great strides in ensuring transparency and fairness in the last two elections through the use of mobile voting without the need to have any ballots printed. Paperless voting, we could say, is just a small indicator of how far the Association has come in the last 50 years. Here is to another 50 years.



Shekilango bus Terminus along Dar Es Salaam's BRT

WILSON MUGAMBI

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BELIEVE, BEGIN, BECOME

There is a short phrase that really inspires me...BELIEVE, BEGIN, BECOME. This epitomises the journey that the Architectural Association of Kenya has made up to this point. From the mere faith in a body that brings built environment professionals together, to actually establishing it in 1967 with only 4 Chapters, and culminating in what is now 50 years of positive growth and being the home of the largest number of professionals in the industry: Happy Birthday AAK!

I am more than humbled to lead the new Chapter Council in this Golden Jubilee year. We have assumed office at a very historic time. The Standard Gauge Railway (SGR) a.k.a. Madaraka Express between Nairobi and Mombasa was launched recently amidst much pomp and glamour. The response from the public was nothing short of optimistic, and aside from queries on the project's cost and comparisons to similar projects, the issue of mobility stood out.

Our towns and cities are not standing still; architecture cannot be left behind. The future of buildings is adaptability, and mobility can complement the special powers of architecture to encompass greater experiences while contributing more to the urban whole. Still, it's not enough for buildings to move on their own; it's the development and infrastructural connecting lines between and beyond city blocks—

and towns—that proves just as important.

My Council intends to demystify the profession via a concerted engagement with the membership and stakeholders. The world is a global village and the Architect needs to establish more efficient ways to cement his/her relevance and be a key voice in transforming the environment.

The profession should take advantage of devolution and we shall be at the forefront of enlightening the Counties on the need for architects from planning to implementation.

Finally, we shall ensure that all classes of membership are involved in all our activities in order to not only promote synergy but to also avail opportunities for mentorship for the younger generation.

As no man is an island, we shall strive to collaborate with the other Chapters in order to fly the flag of the built environment even higher. Indeed, the 50th anniversary motto is a true embodiment of how we should deliver in our 2 year tenure – Looking Back, Moving Forward.

I anticipate great strides for the Chapter and the Association at large. Thank you!

ARCHITECTS CHAPTER COUNCIL



MARYLYN MUSYIMI - *Secretary*

Marylyn Musyimi is a registered Architect in Kenya and holds a Master's degree in Construction Project Management. She is the Secretary of the Architects Chapter AAK, and the Assistant Honorary Secretary of the AAK. She also serves the fraternity in various other capacities nationally and regionally.

ALFRED O. MANGO - *Council member*

Arch. Mango has an Msc.in Architecture, from Kharkov State Technical University of Construction & Architecture. He registered with the Board of registration of Architecture and Quantity Surveyors. A council member of the Architectural Association of Kenya (AAK), and Technical University of Mombasa. He is the CEO of Archipoint Consulting Architects.



GEORGE ARABBU - *Registrar*

George Arabbu Ndege, MAAK no. 2511, B. Arch (UON) 2006, Dip. Comp Studies (STTI) 1999, Registrar, Architects chapter. Principal architect, SITESCAPE Studio Ltd. Part-time lecturer, University of Nairobi and the Nairobi Institute Of Technology. Coordinator, Dream Cities Forum, Twitter handle @arabbu

JOHN MWANIKI - *Treasurer*

As one of the founding directors of Arcscene Architects Limited, Arch. Mwaniki has headed most of the projects the firm has undertaken in the last decade in Kenya, Somalia and Gabon.

Architect Mwaniki's experience in Architectural Design and Supervision includes work on commercial, institutional, recreational and residential developments.

Arch. Mwaniki earned a Bachelor's Degree in architecture from Jomo Kenyatta University of Agriculture and Technology. When not working away designing a better world Arch. Mwaniki enjoys watching rugby and playing golf and seeing as much of the world as he can.



DENNIS TSENGA - *Council member*

Lic. Arch. Dennis Tsenga is by far the longest serving council member of the Architects Chapter, having continuously been re-elected since the year 2010. An active council member, championing the rights of Lic. Architects class. An alumni of J.K.U.A.T and a developer in the construction industry. Dennis Tsenga has a vast and wealthy experience in building industry having worked in various firms namely, Kenchuan Architects, EMMS Architects, S.K. Arch plans, Axis Architects and currently Partner at Jadetech Architects.



HAM WESONGA - *council member*

Arch wesonga is a founding partner and technical director at BRICKEHAUS an architectural practice in Kenya. He holds a Bachelor of Architecture degree from Jomo Kenyatta University of Agriculture and Technology (JKUAT). Arch Wesonga is a Chartered Architect by the Royal Institute of British Architects (RIBA) and a Licentiate Member of The Institute for the Management of Information Systems (UK). He is a first time council member and seats in the Advocacy and communications committee as well as the AAK Awards of excellence committee



WYCLIFFE WABURIRI - *Council member*

Wycliffe Waburiri is a registered architect with over 8 years' experience in architecture. He has previously worked with Lexicon + Ion Architects where he among other things helped realize the famed Pearl Marina Complex in Garuga, Uganda. Wycliffe has a passion for architectural history and sits on the AAK council as a representative of graduate architects.



NYOLE FLORENCE - *Vice Chairperson*

Florence is an architect and Environmental Design Consultant practicing as a partner with EcoSpace Architects. She has previously worked with Waweru and Associates Architects and Kujenga Group Ltd. She is currently serving as the Vice Chairperson of the Architects Chapter as well as a member of the editorial team for The Architect Magazine. She is also a council member of the EAIA and sits on the Council for Young Architects in the UIA. She has a passion for sustainability in architecture, and placemaking of social and community spaces. She is a tutorial fellow at the Department of Architecture and Building Science at the University of Nairobi



WILSON MUGAMBI - *Chairperson*

Wilson Mugambi is a registered Architect and Principal of Insignia Dezyns Limited, an Architectural and Interior Design Consultancy firm based in Nairobi. He previously served as Vice Chairperson and Registrar of the Chapter. He is also a Council member of the East Africa Institute of Architects (EAIA) and a Director of the Joint Building Council (JBC). He represents the AAK in KEBS Steel Technical Committee and in the Tourism Regulatory Authority (TRA) Hotel Standardization and Classification Committee.

In his practice, Wilson specializes in design, spatial planning and project management. He has a passion for management and is pursuing a Masters Degree in Urban Management. Away from the professional realm, he is an ardent golfer and fitness enthusiast.





GAD OPIYO - *Council Member*

Is a registered Architect and an alumnus of Kanga High school. He holds a B. Arch. Degree from The University of Nairobi and Executive MBA from Management University of Africa. Today, Gad practices as an Architect, a contractor and a developer and has been in private practice for the past 19 years. He is an ardent promoter of cross border trade in construction services in the EAC. The founder and CEO of Gads Works Holding Ltd with a wealth of experience in the construction Industry. Also dedicated promoter of professionalism in the industry currently serving as the Vice President of AAK and President of East Africa Institute of Architects. Gad enjoys intellectual pursuits, loves reading, public speaking, a fitness enthusiast; Yogi and Zumba dancer. He is married, with two sons and one daughter.

DENNIS KIBUCHI - *Council member*

Dennis is a Licentiate Architect joining the Council for the first time. He has actively practiced in Design, Construction Project Management and Facilities Management in both Private and Public sectors for over 10 years. He Currently serves as Facilities & Projects Officer at the Kenya National Examinations Council. He is also a director at Ultimate Elegance Ltd. He is a student of Master of Construction Project Management at Jomo Kenyatta University of Agriculture and Technology.



PETER OLUOCH - *Council member*

Is a practicing architect and a Director at Bon-Arch Associates Ltd, a vibrant Architectural, Interior Design & Project Management consultancy firm. He joins the council for the first time where he serves in the BAF- subcommittee which has been coopted into the Research and Advocacy committee of AAK. He holds a B. Arch. Degree from the University of Nairobi and a master's degree in Project Planning and Management, MAPPM, from the same institution. He is a certified project manager (PMP®) with the project management institute and is a member of the PMI global and PMI-Kenya chapter.

PHILLIP KOTENG - *Council member*

A graduate of JKUAT's School of Architecture and Building sciences, Phillip Koteng returns to the council as an elected official having been co-opted in the previous council. He currently serves as the Vice Chairperson of the AAK Cooperative SACCO and is a co-founder at Eco Hut Africa Ltd. Koteng has presented technical papers at both Commonwealth Association of Architects and the International Union of Architects conferences.



ALEX GACHANJA
Council Member

Arch. Alex Gachanja Nyagah is a registered Architect in Kenya with the Board or Registration of Architects and Quantity Surveyors (BORAQS) having graduated from Jomo Kenyatta university of Agriculture and Technology (JKUAT) with a BSc. in Architecture. He is also an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) and Audit Expert with the National Environmental Management Authority (NEMA). As a Practicing Architect, Arch. Alex is the Director of Archbuild Limited, an Architectural firm registered in Kenya since 2010 that specialize in Spatial planning and Project management. Besides the built Environment, Arch. Alex sits in various technical committees which include the Kenya Bureau of Standards (KEBS) Construction Technology technical committee on EPS, where he is the chairman and also the committee on Clay and Clay products.

VERONICA MUNYAO - *Council member*

Ms. Veronica M. Munyao is an architect and an environmental design consultant. An alumnae of the Kenya High School (2005). She holds a Bachelor of Architectural Studies (B.AS) and Bachelor of Architecture (B. Arch) - University of Nairobi (UoN); Master of Architecture (M. Arch)- Environmental Design- UoN. She is an assistant lecturer at the Technical University of Kenya and a teaching assistant at the University of Nairobi. Veronica is very passionate about Green/Sustainable Architecture, community development programmes, youth mentorship and career guidance. She is the founder of MasterCraft Systems and Transformative Mentorship Africa. She recently joined the AAK- Architects Chapter Council where she serves in the Advocacy and Communication Committee and also in the AAK Awards of Excellence Committee.



NDIRANGU GITHINJI - *Council member*

A JKUAT sabs alumni and currently serving in the directorate of public works and housing county Government of Machakos .He joins the council for the first time and brings in a vast experience in leadership both in government and private sector .Currently pursuing Masters in project Planning and Management and have served in various capacities in private sector and Community Initiatives.

MARTIN TAIRO - *Assistant Secretary*

Martin is an architect, Interior Designer and Project Management consultant. He is currently the Principal Architect at Architecture Kenya and has previously worked with Triad Architects and Morphosis Limited. Martin is also the editor in chief of BUILDDesign Magazine, a Kenyan architectural and construction review magazine. He lectures at the Technical University of Kenya



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ETTA MADETE

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RIBA INTERNATIONAL STUDENT DESIGN CHARRETTE

The RIBA international week was held at Ribas' main office in Portland place, London between 3rd and 8th July 2017. The international week comprised of various activities including a day long international conference, installations, exhibitions, presentations and an international student design charrette which I was sponsored by the CAA (Commonwealth association of architects) to attend. The main theme being, "Change in the city; opportunities for architects in the New Urban Agenda", which explored how architects and the profession remain relevant during these changing times. The New Urban Agenda was launched at UN conference; Habitat III in Quito on October 2016. This agenda aimed to respond to Sustainable development goal (SDG) number 11 which aims to, "Make cities and human settlements inclusive, resilient and sustainable". The summary

action points include commitments by leaders to provide basic services for all citizens, ensure that all citizens have access to equal opportunities, promote cleaner cities, strengthen resilience in cities, address climate change, fully respect the rights of refugees, migrants and internally displaced persons and promote safe, accessible and green public spaces.

The application, implications and frameworks needed to explore these agenda items as well as how the architect, urbanist and planners fit into the process were explored through panel discussions, presentations and interviews with a prominent line up of speakers which included, Sir David Chipperfield, Dr. Joan Clos, Odile Decq, Francis Kere, Amanda Levete, Urban think tank, Ma yansong, Elizabeth Diller amongst many other sociologists, architects and urbanists.

Summary points from the various presentations are that as architects and planners we must begin connecting needs to developmental outcomes and remember that urbanisation is not an outcome of development but that it is a strategy and that the urban landscape should give people the people right to the city, right to infrastructure, right to housing, and right to resilience. It is therefore important to also design, define and understand the urban edges and use them to knit the urban fabric by finding the cracks and crevices in our respective communities and start asking the right questions.

International Student Design Charrette

The International student design charrette which I participated in



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took place alongside the conference and other activities. The main objective was to bring together urban design experts and academics and international students to explore elements of the New Urban Agenda through a workshops masterclasses and through a planning and design exercise in four urban morphologies which included exploring the historic city, the city built from scratch, the informal city and the city annexe.

The workshop was organized into several meetings, classes and crit sessions which culminated in the students teams preparing and presenting two A1 posters and a five-point manifesto which demonstrated the global applications of their design ideas as well as their contextual application to the case study areas. With the supervision of appointed academics and experts each working group explored the different themes of urban configurations and over the three day workshop.

The CAA sponsored two students from each of the five regions to attend the event that is how I got the opportunity to participate amongst other students from around the world. The CAA sponsored students were eleven in total and included students from Australia, Caribbean, Ghana, Hong Kong, Kenya, New Zealand, and South Africa.

I was a member of the In formal city working group in which we explored implications, applications and possibilities of the New Urban Agenda in the informal sectors of the urban landscape. Thereafter applying them to two case study locations one in Cairo and the other in India. Our five point manifesto (See image) challenged the industry practitioners to flip the narrative and challenge the prevailing lexicon in discussions about informality therefore changing our perspective of looking at urbanism as a linear fixed complete story instead to look at the reality of the impermanent urban spectrum that is temporary, intentional and informed incompleteness. This calls for more active design ideas that focus on re stitching urban margins and promoting porosity in the urban informal landscape instead of admonishing it. This also calls for a redefinition of the role of the architect to be more encompassing of the reality, which is the architect as a mediator,

connector, empowerer, advocate, activist and so much more.

Lessons learnt

All in all the conference went well and exposed me to a wide range of urban and architectural issues being faced in the world today and I was exposed to the fact that the issues facing all cities and urban areas are the same the world over. One of the glaring issues from my perspective is that the voices of the people living in developing nations are somehow left out of the discussion, as there were no panelists present who live and work in developing nations. I believe it is important that all voices from varying region are included in the discussion in order to provide a more realistic perspective and hence be able to develop more context appropriate solutions. Unfortunately the agenda focuses on a blanket solution that is not contextualized to the various economic, social, cultural, climatic and population densities in different world regions and therefore architects, planners and developers in each country and city need to take the lead alongside policy makes in coming up with viable processes, frameworks and strategies for implementation.

We must also challenge the narrative used to describe the urban landscape from what is idealized to what is the reality on the ground and in turn re define the role of the architect to encompass roles such as mediator, activist, empowerer, socialist and so much more.

A three point action plan

1. Create academic structures for international and local design charrettes and workshops as a learning tool and a platform for investigating, exploring and strategising design and policy frameworks for our cities.
2. Actively participate in the global conversation especially on aspects that directly affect the built environment, the urban landscape and its thriving population.
3. Develop urban frameworks that actively engage with the edges and margins of the urban landscape in order to better understand and knit the urban landscape together into a cohesive and productive society.



THE MOMBASA-NAIROBI STANDARD GAUGE RAILWAY PROJECT BUILDING DESIGN

JOSECK WAKHUNGU

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The building design is a part of Mombasa-Nairobi Standard Gauge Railway Project, which starts at the terminal Mombasa Port and is ended at Nairobi South Station, 480km in length. The design speed for passenger transport is 120km/h while 80km/h for the freight transport.

There are 367 buildings in total along the line. During Phase I of the project, 33 stations have been planned, among which, 23 crossing stations and 7 intermediate stations. The buildings that have been designed include 23 main station buildings along the line, additionally, some ancillary facilities such as control center, office buildings, livinghouses, warehouses, signal buildings and so on.

Introduction

The question of Identity in architecture is of essence in our time. The task of an architect is to create a physical environment identifiable as its own (Cassirer 1965). The backbone of architecture is that visual form which requires justification, and so buildings should display visual unity to make them understandable to humans as the human mind has intuitive inclination to Symbolize. Building within

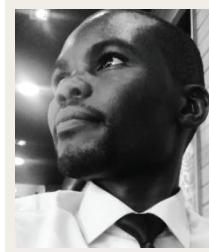
modern societies sets before the professional the task of identifying, understanding and creating forms and spaces, which are at once new, and familiar, which convey a sense of specific identity, and are not alienating. Modernization and advent of technology have enabled generation of complex forms beyond our everyday experience giving architects more tools and freedom to provide expression through form.

Why we need symbolic architectural forms

Symbolism in architecture makes a community identify with their surroundings. It increases creativity interpretation methods beyond the basics thereby taking architecture to greater heights. These forms also benefit Architects in providing guidelines for appropriate forms, which are symbolic and resonate well in their contexts.

LIST OF BUILDINGS

1. Nairobi South Station
2. Mombasa West Station
3. Mariakani Station
4. Miaseny Station
5. Voi Station
6. Mtito Andei Station
7. Kibwezi Station
8. Athi River Station
9. Signal Building
10. Living House 2
11. Comprehensive Building at the Vehicle Depot
12. Combined Buildings at the Vehicle Depot
13. Locomotive Attendant Apartment
14. Railcar Shed
15. 33KV Substation



JOSECK WAKHUNGU is a graduate Architect and a member of AAK. He holds B. Architectural studies and B. Arch. Degree from The University of Nairobi. He is currently pursuing a Master of Arts degree in Construction Management at the same institution.

MAP AND STATIONS



Google map showing location of stations along the railway line

MAIN STATIONS

Nairobi SGR terminus, Nairobi south
Mombasa SGR terminus, Mombasa west.

TERMINAL STATIONS

Nairobi South – West terminal
Mombasa Port – East terminal
Mombasa West – East passenger terminal

INTERMEDIATE STATIONS

Athi River station
Emali station
Kibwezi
Makindu
Mtito andei
Voi
Miasenyi
Mariakani.

SIGNAL BUILDINGS

Intermediate communication base stations
and fiber optic repeater

CROSSING STATIONS

23 crossing stations



NAIROBI SOUTH STATION

Located 12km from Nairobi downtown, this landmark building serves as a gateway to the city.

The shape of the station mimics the DMU (Diesel Multiple Unit), a type of locomotive. Nairobi being the Centre of SGR project, this building exhibits dynamism. It appears to be in motion in opposite directions, towards Mombasa and towards Malaba.

The middle part of the station, which hosts the main passenger waiting lobby and retail activities, appears to be 'stacked' on other sections; this symbolizes the double stack containers

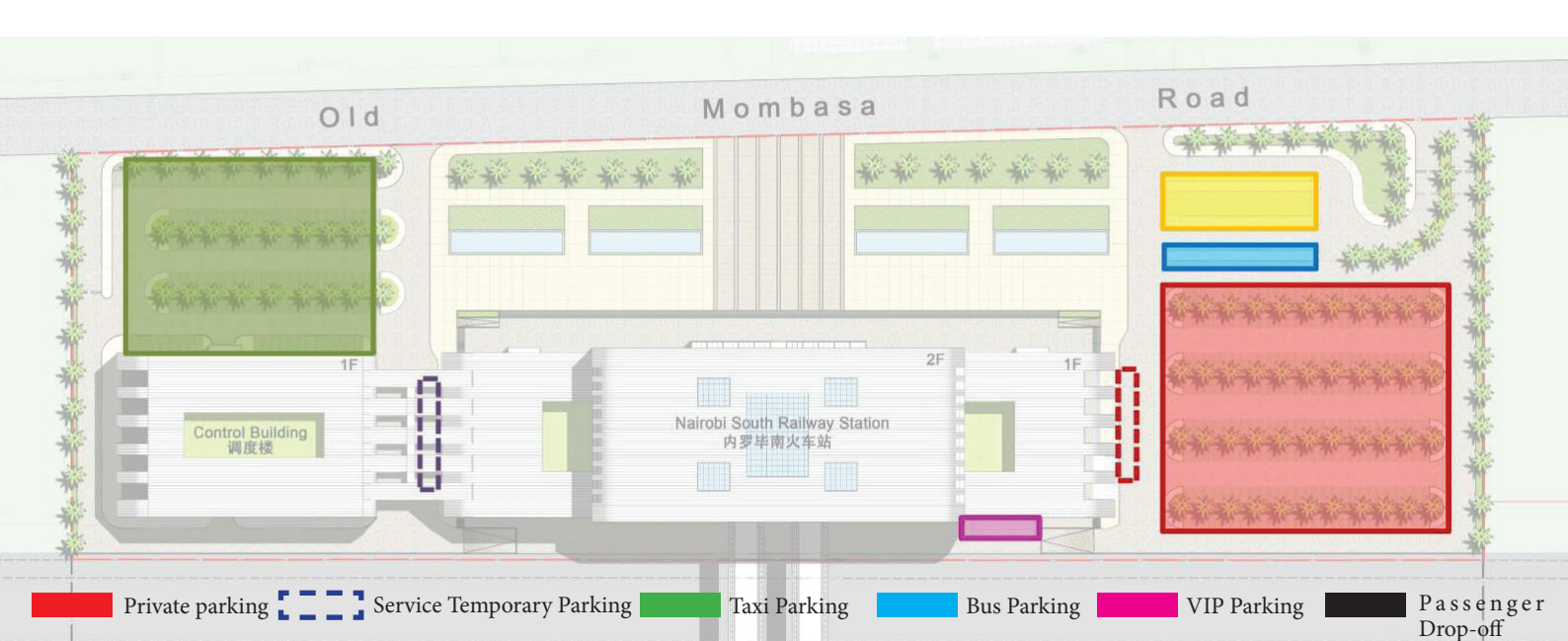
(Image, Photo, Drawings credit: Kenya railways/crbc/TAEC/Edon).



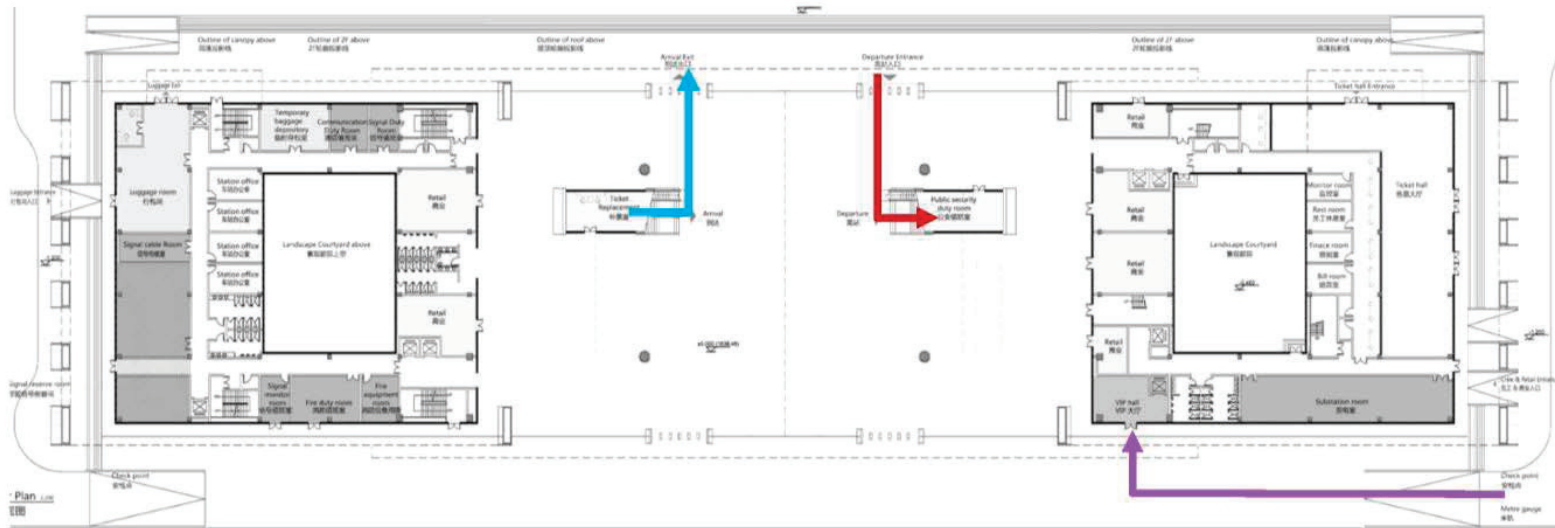
The concept of double stack sgr containers was employed in the design of the Nairobi station
Image credit: 1) Kenya railways, 2) Indian Railways



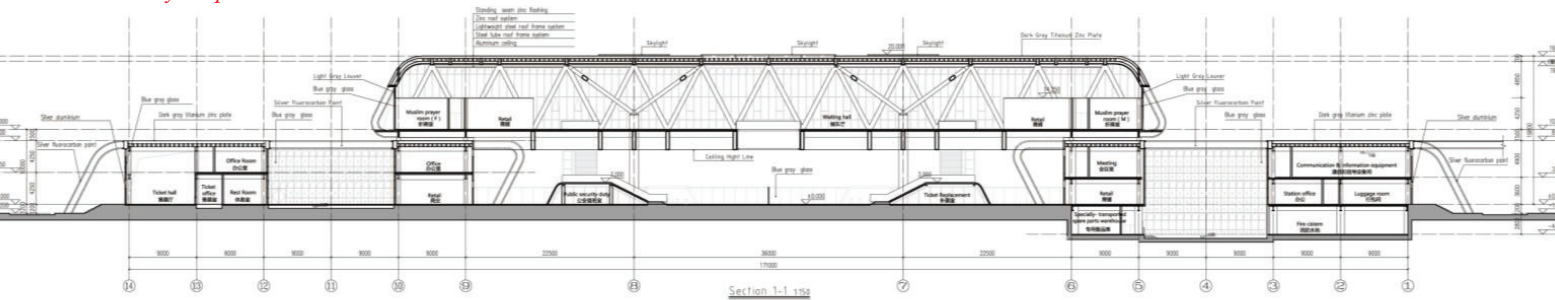
Side view of Nairobi station, notice resemblance of curved façade to DMU on the left



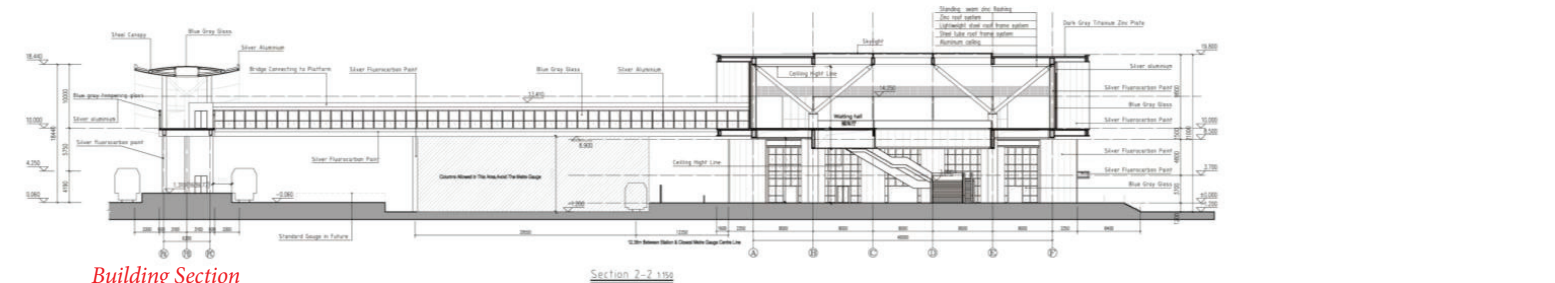
Site plan



Ground floor plan



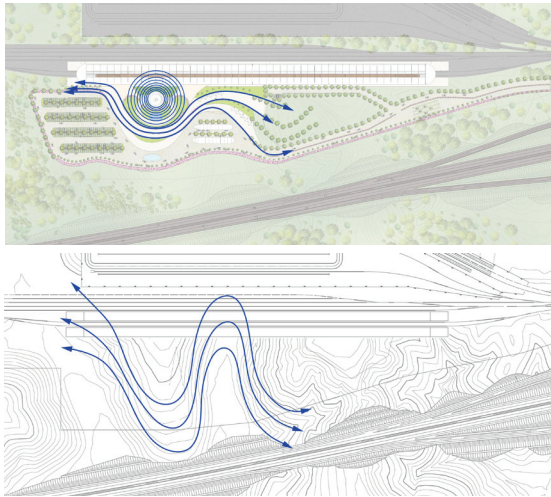
Building Section



MAIN FEATURE



MOMBASA WEST RAILWAY STATION



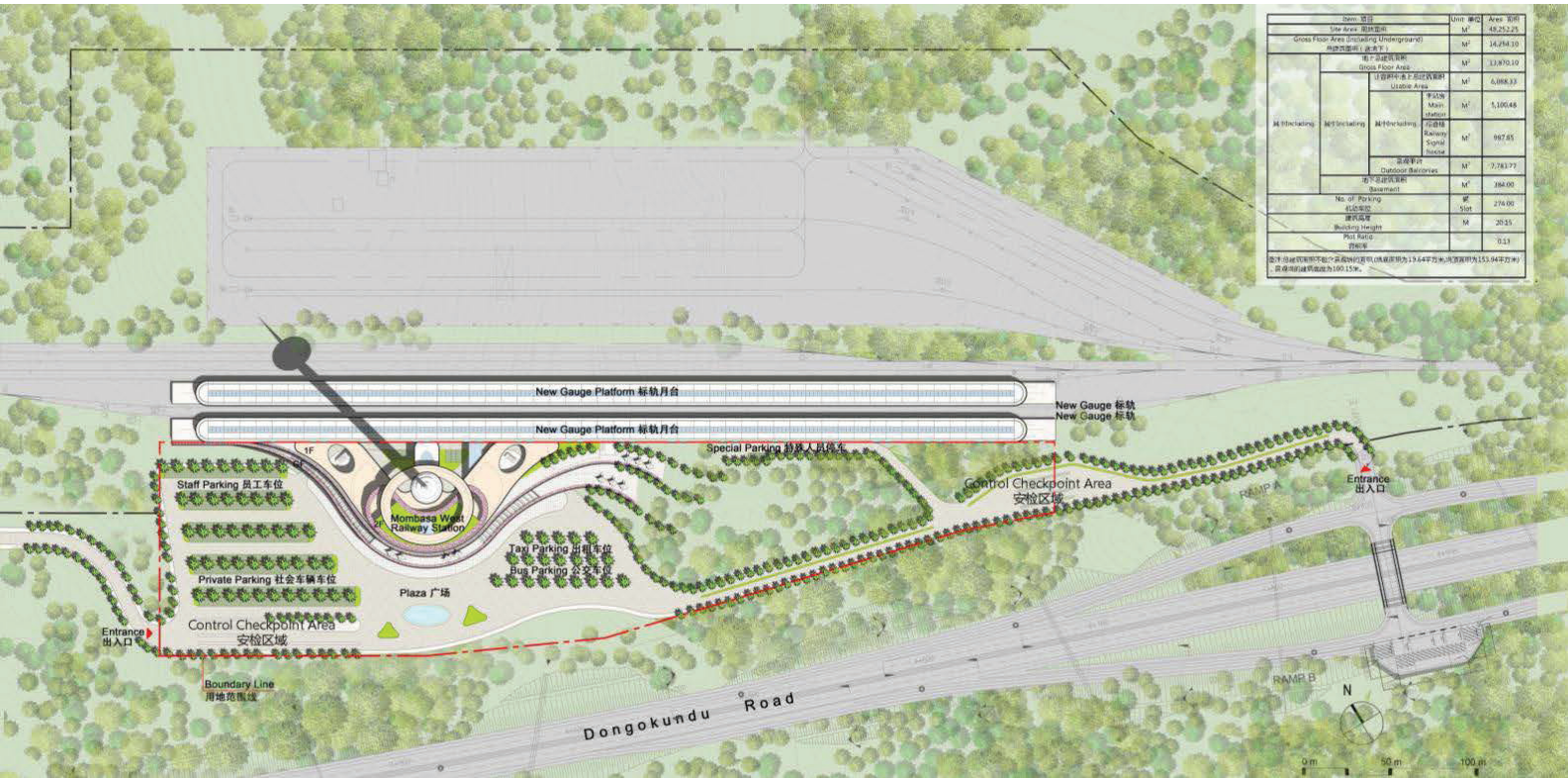
Architects sketch of the Mombasa SGR station, notice the response to existing landscape and curved façade to enhance views to the ocean

Located on the north of dongo kundu road (approx. 10km from Old town), this building is conceptualized to mimic waves and ripples in the ocean radiating from the central tower.

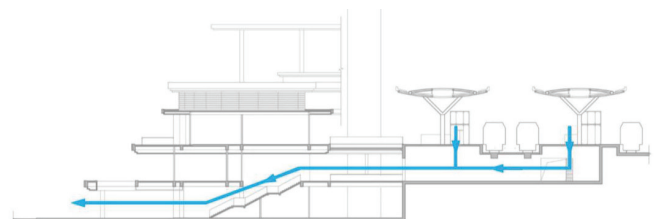
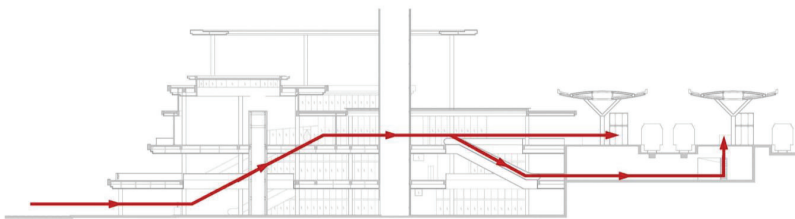
The lighthouse, phenomena of the coastline, inspires the tower. To take advantage of the views the ocean facing façade is curved for broad views to the ocean. As manifested in the 'genius loci', (the spirit of a place), architectural forms should resonate well with the contexts in which they are designed, the building is also molded to fit in the existing topography.

(Image, Photo, Drawings credit: Kenya railways/crbc/TAEC/Edon).

MAIN FEATURE



Site plan



Sections

MAIN FEATURE



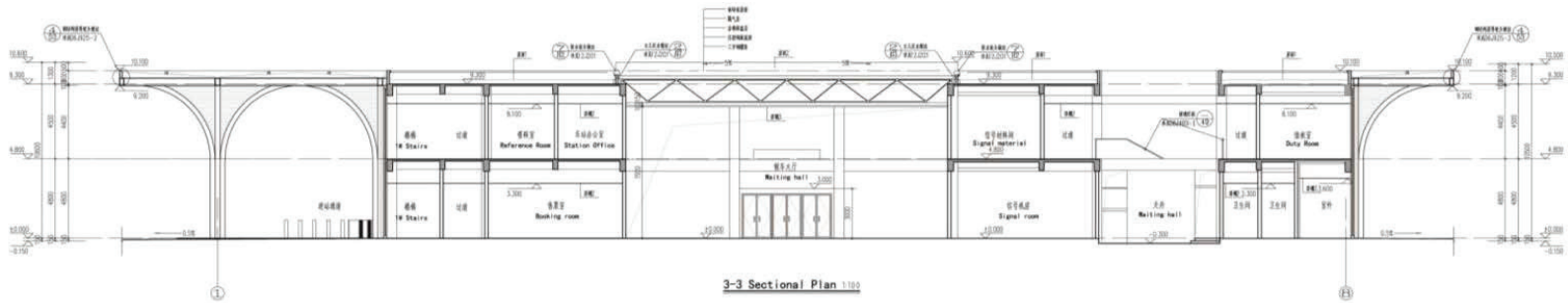
Abstraction

The design of this intermediate station is symbolic of distinctive contextual features. It borrows heavily from the Coconut tree especially in the design of porticos. The porticos also help in sun shading the building, owing to its warm humid climate.





Site plan



Building Section



MIASENY STATION



Outer wall material of strong African colors + Modern striping design

= Local building with strong modern sense

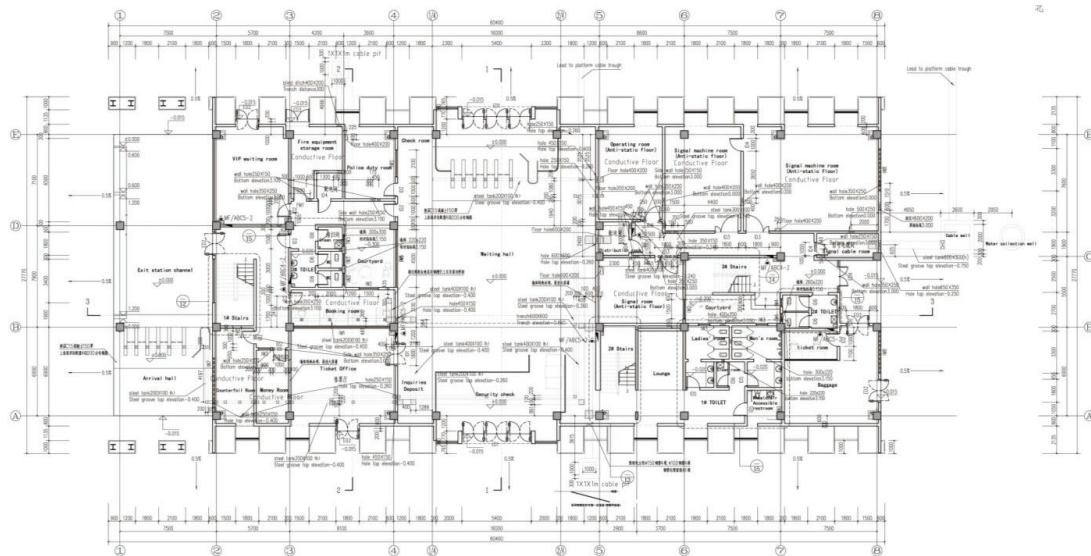


Abstraction

This building is located at Tsavo national park, symbolically; it mimics Zebra strips, some of the wildlife in the tsavo national park. It also borrows heavily from strong African colors

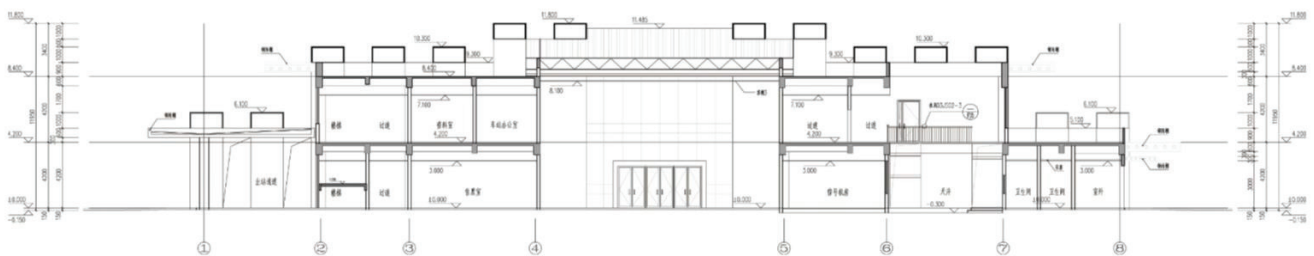


Site Plan



Ground Floor Plan

The Ground Floor Plan 1:100



Building Section



VOI STATION



Graphical schematic



Element extraction



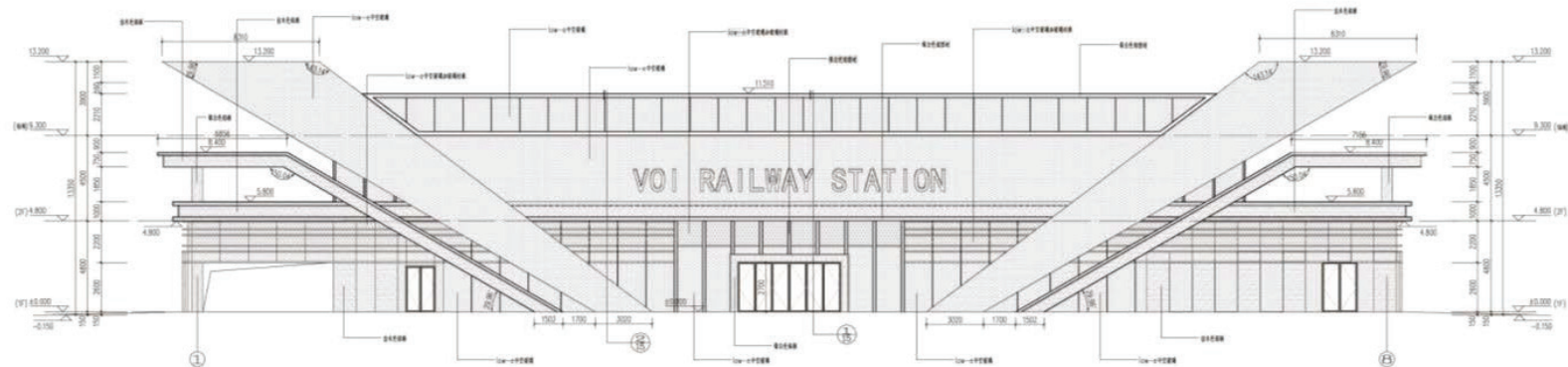
Symbol extraction



Symbol Application

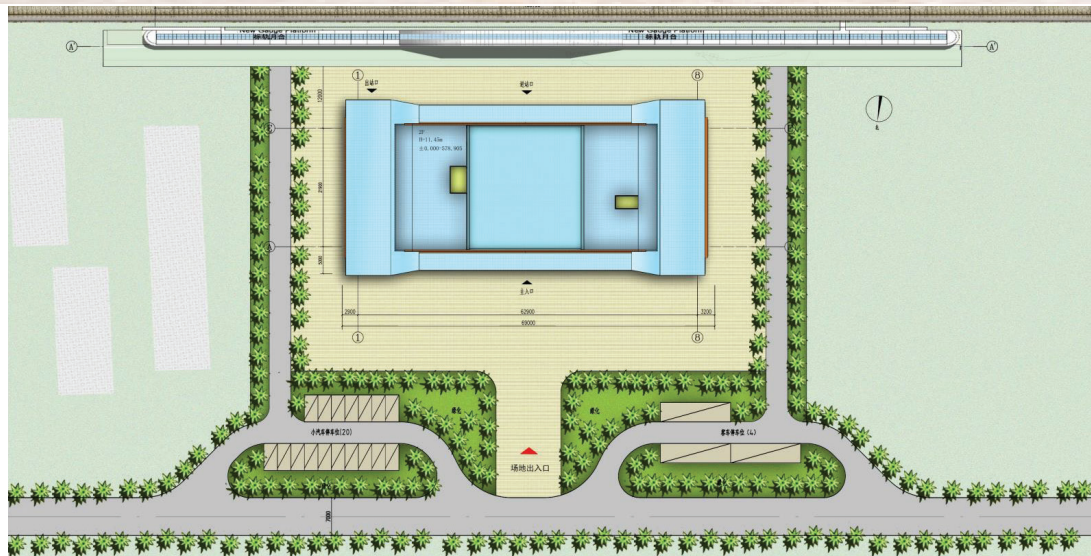
Design concept: 'harambee' -pulling together (national motto)

The spirit of 'HARAMBEE', which means 'pulling together' seem to have been the main symbol behind this building. It, advocates for unity and harmony. Furthermore, the V-shaped building seem to have drawn its inspiration from the name 'VOI'

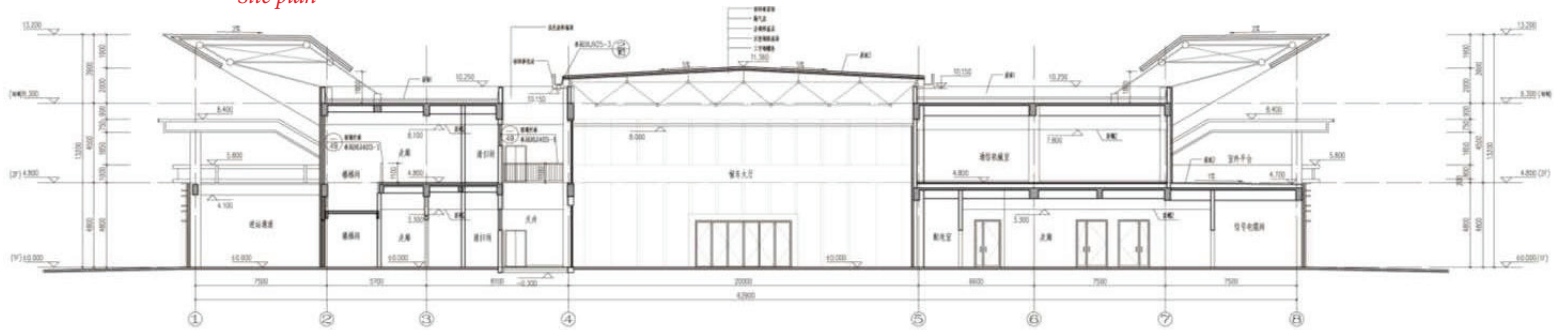


Elevation

①-② Elevation Plan 1:100



Site plan



Building Section

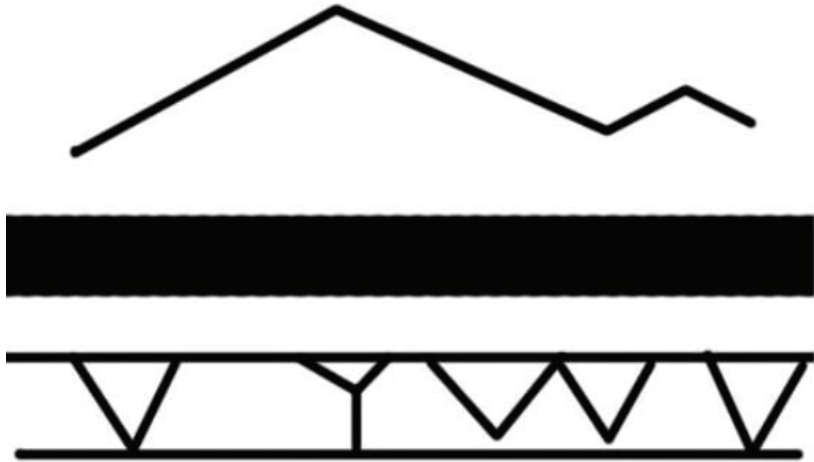
1-1 Sectional Plan 1:100



MTITO ANDEI STATION

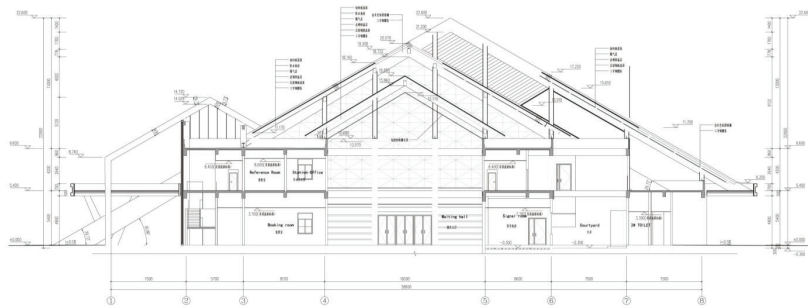


The Scenery



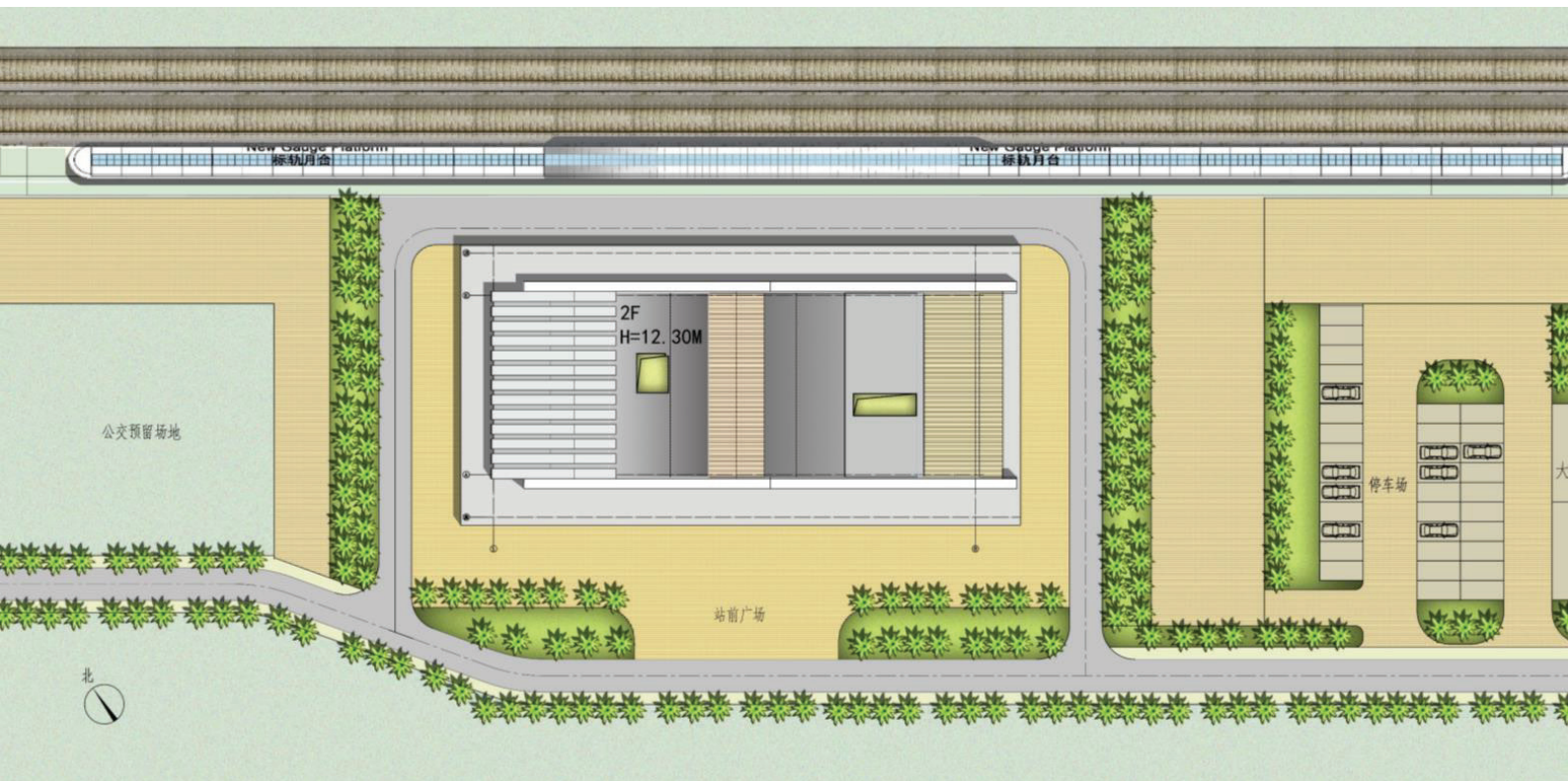
Elements

The design inspiration of this project comes from mountains, clouds and trees and extracts their geometrical elements symbols in form making. The sloping roof symbolizing mountains is integrated with modern construction methods, providing people strong visual impact.



1-1 Sectional Plan

Building Section

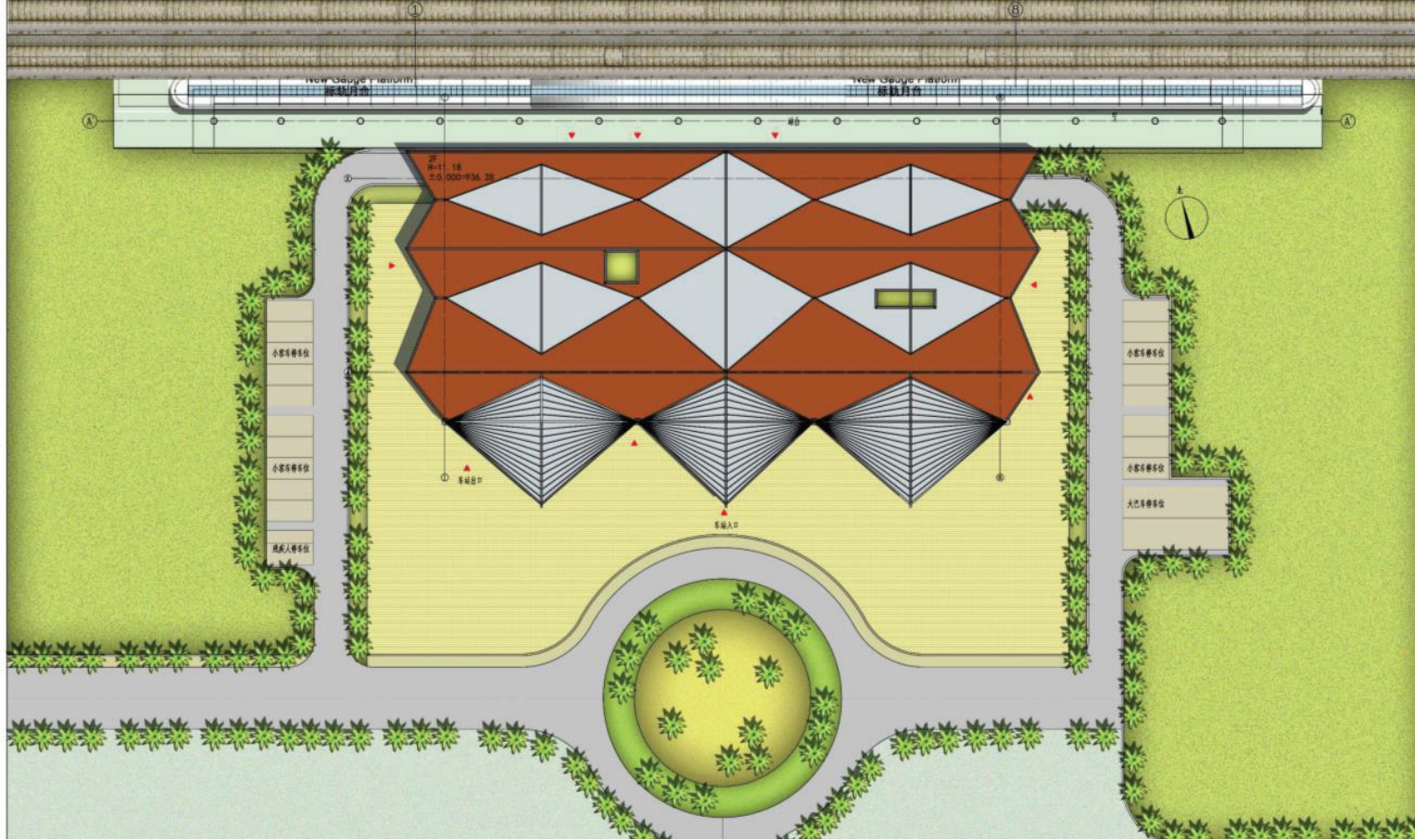


Site Plan

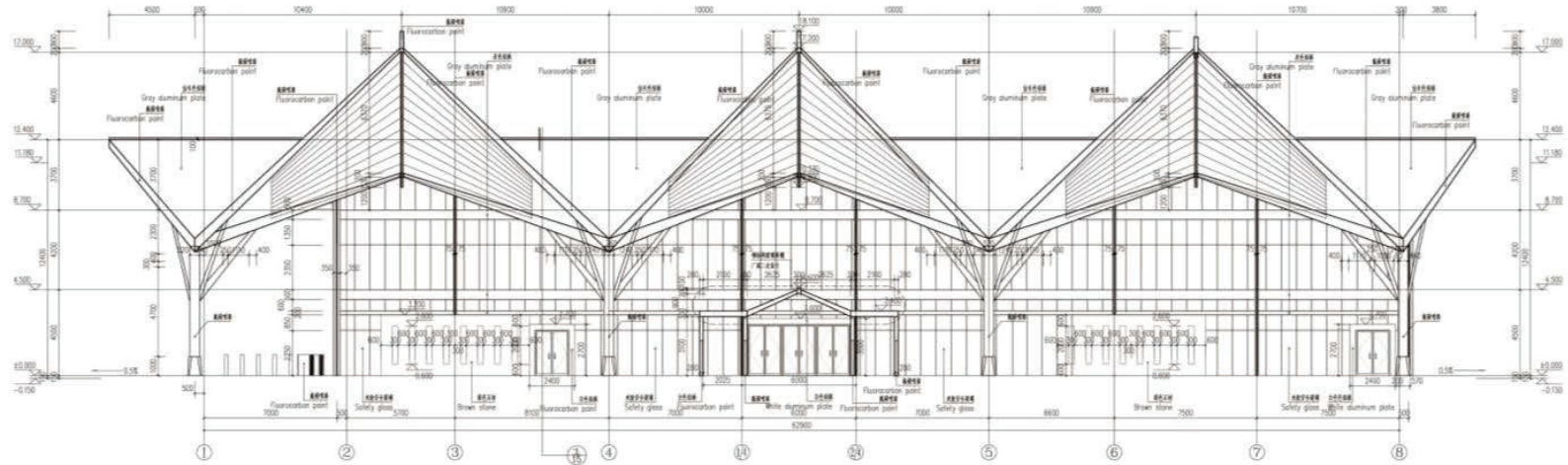
KIBWEZI STATION



Apart from borrowing from traditional African architecture, the design of Kibwezi Station borrows from leaves. The eaves created by the 'leaves' are not just for aesthetic appeal but will also provide shelter for passengers.

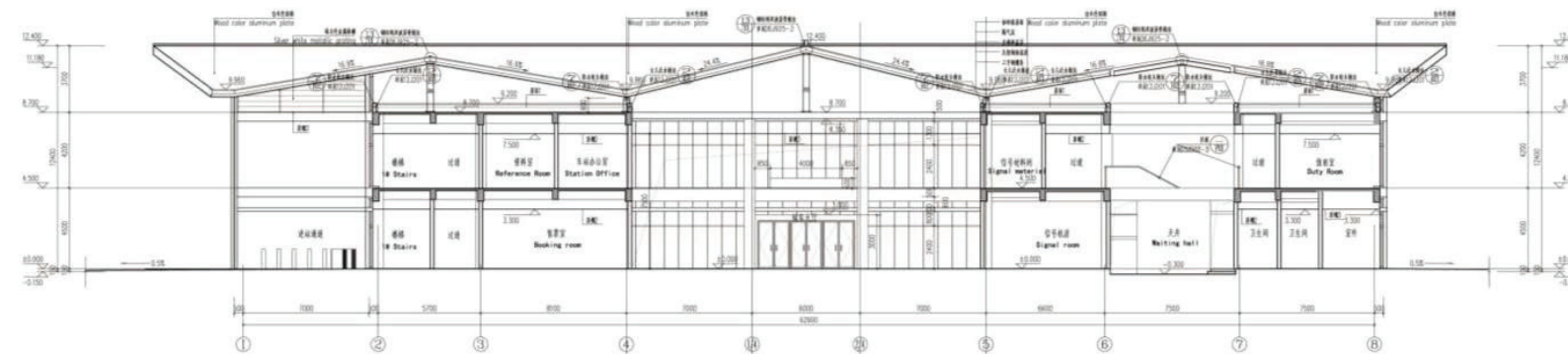


Site Plan



Elevation

1-8 Elevation Plan 1:100



Building Section

3-3 Sectional Plan 1:100



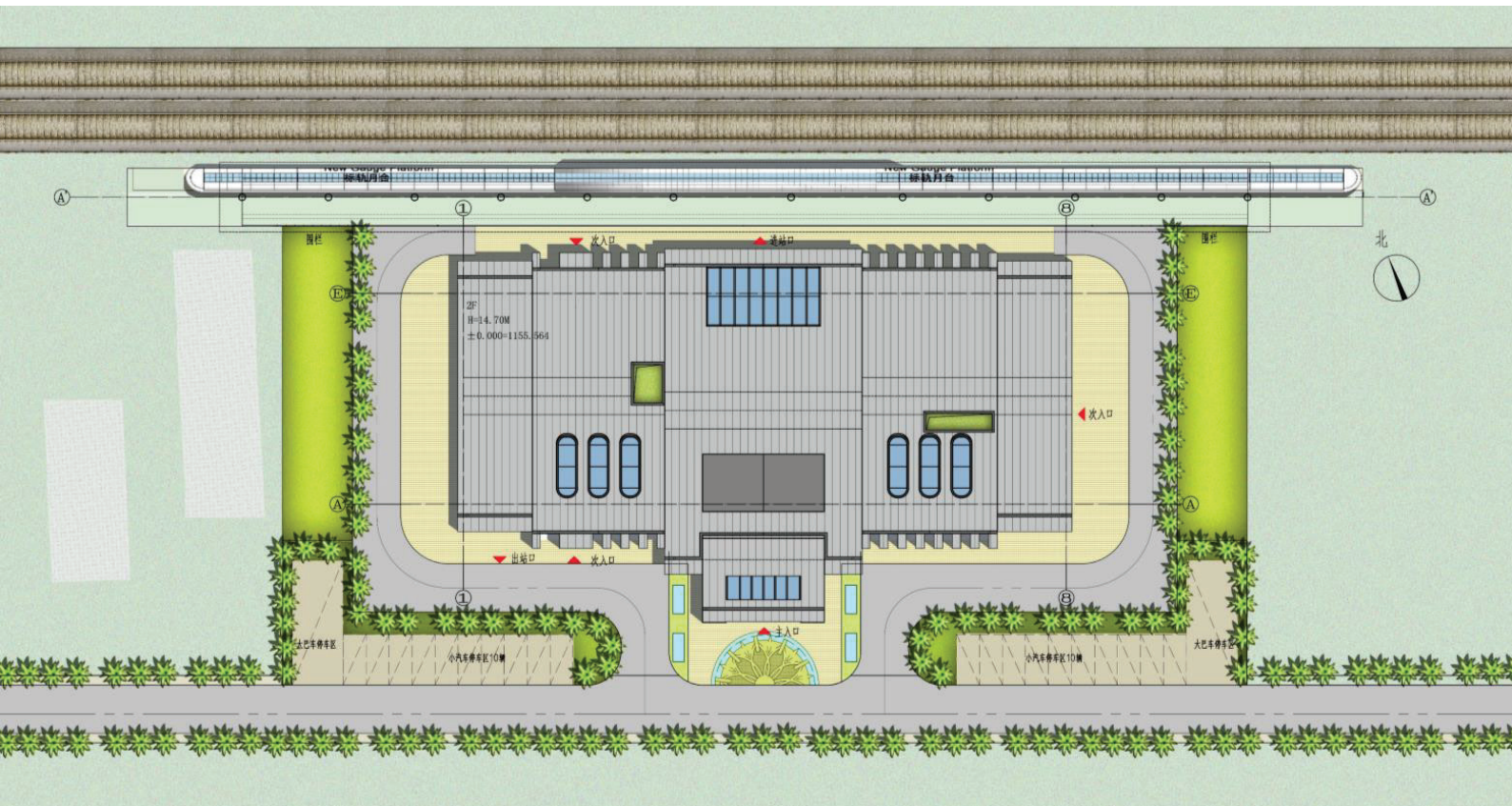
EMALI STATION



The spirit with national unity

Design concept: 'Comradeship'

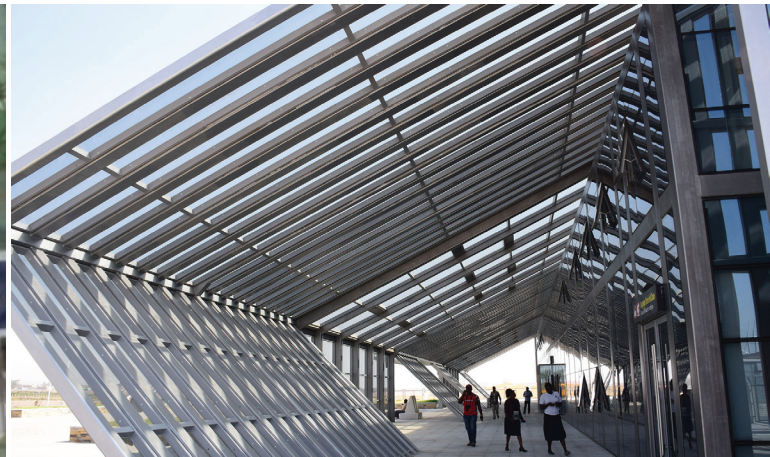
Folded fingers, symbolizing unity or 'comradeship' seem to have inspired the design of this station. This perhaps is informed by the two communities with different social and cultural backgrounds inhabit this area in cohesion.



Site Plan



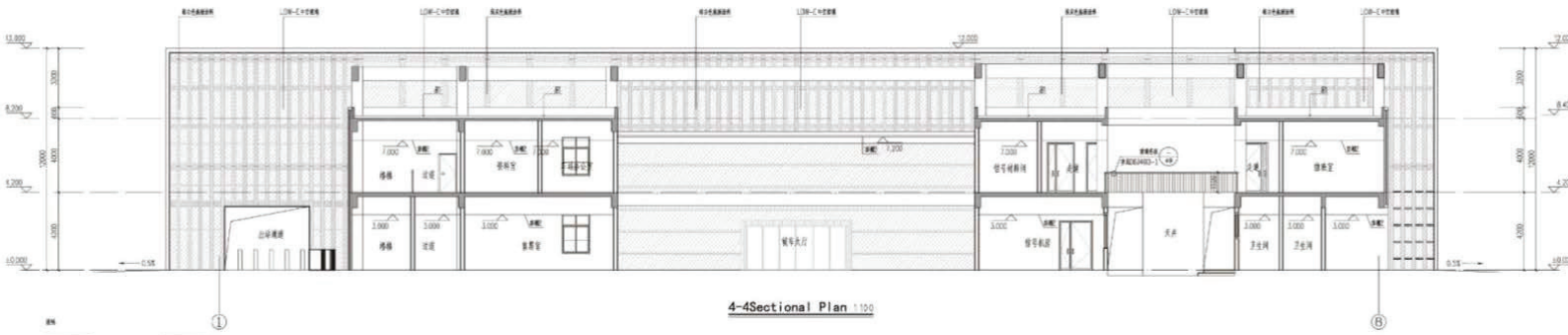
ATHI RIVER STATION



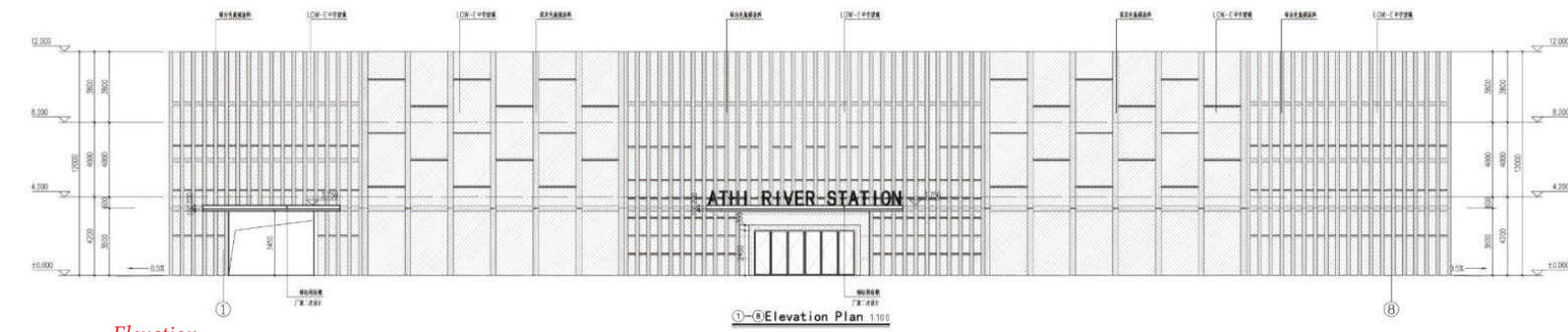
This is the first intermediate station from Nairobi. The design mimics Lukenya hills; present in its context, it also borrows from traditional African architecture where part of the roof extends to the ground.



Site Plan



Building Section



Elevation

COMPANY PROFILE



EDON CONSULTANTS

Edon Consultants International Ltd. Was first established in 1982 as a sole proprietorship under the direction of Arch. J. E. O. Ndong, trading as Edon Consultants. The firm later expanded and became an international company when it opened offices in Uganda and Namibia and became a Limited Liability company in the year 2000.

Edon Consultants International Ltd now has a core staff of 24 professional, sub-professional and support staff as indicated below.

The firm however occasionally employs additional staff on contract according to increased workload when need arises.

- 8 - Architectural Consultants & Project Managers
- 7 - Technicians (Draughtsmen) & Construction Supervisors
- 9 - Support Staff

- Established in 2000
- Based in Timau Plaza, 3rd Floor., Argwings Kodhek Road., P.O.Box 19684 00202., Nairobi - Kenya
- Email: info@edoninternational.com
- Website: www.edoninternational.com

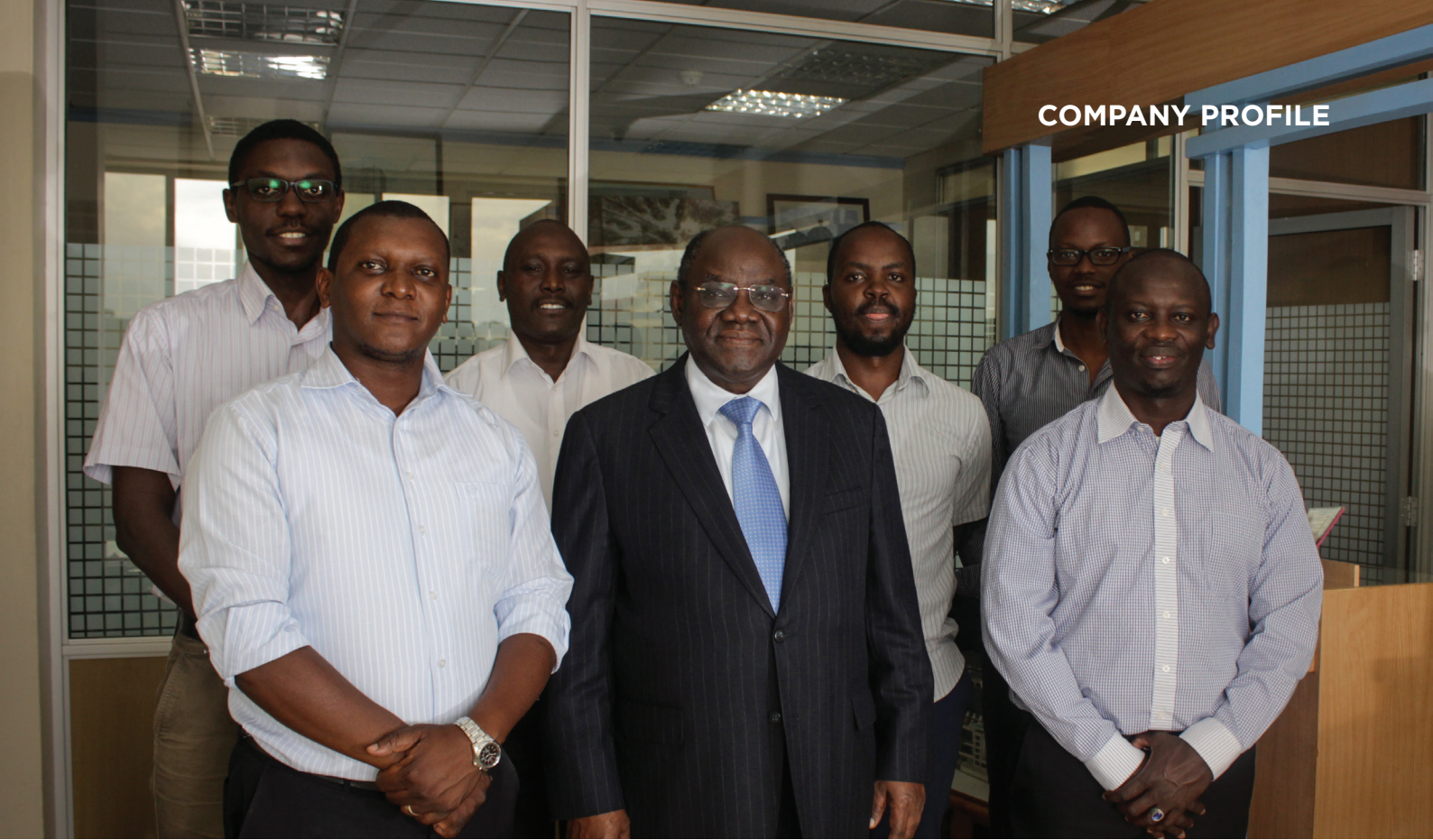
Some of the projects done by EDON Consultants



Kibwezi Railway Station, Kibwezi



Judiciary of Southern Sudan (JoSS)



Our Lady Queen of Peace, Nairobi



Cold Springs Hotel, Homa Bay



Proposed Expansion of Kisii University



Kengen Parking Silo - Parklands (Nairobi Kenya)



Born in 1950 in a small town west of Kenya called Homa Bay in South Nyanza, Architect. Jeremiah Eddy Obar Ndong is 64 years old. Often referred to as Jerry Ndong, the founder and senior director of Edon Consultants International, Arch. Jerry Ndong has been practicing for the last 32 years.

Education

After primary school in his local village in 1965, Arch. Jerry Ndong was admitted to Mang'u high school for his O' levels. He would then proceed for A levels at Homa Bay high school in 1970. Upon completing his A level studies, Arch. Jerry Ndong could not pursue further studies. With eleven children, his father who worked as a primary school teacher could not support his family efficiently and therefore Arch. Jerry Ndong had to start working and earn a living to help educate his siblings. He started working at the Kenya Commercial Bank (then known as National & Grindlays Bank) as clerk section head. Immediately after, Arch. Jerry Ndong got married.

In 1976, he got a scholarship to go study electronic engineering at

ARCH. JERRY NDONG

Khartoum University in Sudan. Upon joining the university, Arch. Jerry Ndong was introduced to this artistic course closely related with engineering. The discipline was rather appealing however, it would take him a long study period and as a married man, that would be a challenge. He would later learn that both architecture and engineering courses took equal duration of study. Understanding that architecture was more lucrative, Jerry settled for architecture instead of the engineering course.

Early career life

After five years of study, Arch. Jerry Ndong graduated with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Architecture in 1980. He came back to Kenya joined the Ministry of Public Works as an assistant architect. Around the same time, he also became a part time lecturer at the University of Nairobi, faculty of Architecture Design and Development. In 1983, Jerry sat for his professional exams and was registered an architect. Nurtured to complete his work in a day at the bank, Jerry's performance at the Ministry was exquisite hence in the same year he was appointed Head of Department in charge of Building Requirements for the Ministries of Agriculture and Livestock Development. After three years, Arch. Jerry Ndong was promoted to the Provincial Works Officer and posted to Nyeri in Central Province. His work in the new position was maintenance of government buildings. After working in Nyeri for four years, Jerry was posted to the head office in Nairobi. He worked there for one year then was appointed Secretariat of Presidential Commission on Urban Land Use.

Private Practice

In January 1989, Jerry left the Ministry after nine years of civil service to start officially establish his own firm, Edon Consultants International Ltd, which he had been running in a briefcase for 7 years. He had registered Edon in 1982 but he operated from his house while still employed until 1989. The big break for Edon International was design of Asili Co-operative House that same year of establishment; it was a commercial block for a cooperative society, which was located along Moi Avenue next to the Graffins College. The building currently hosts the Clarion hotel. The 25 year old firm, Edon Consultants International Ltd, is still in operation as a fully independent corporate institution offering architectural services, project management, interior design, landscaping and contractor services especially to clients living abroad. They have since opened offices in Namibia, South Sudan and Uganda.

A few of the major projects for Edon International over the years include Kibish paramilitary station in Turkana; which has all the facilities for police training hence can hosts all the forces collectively. The project which is due completion is located at the border of Kenya, Ethiopia and Sudan. Others include Kisii University, Kabiange University, Our Lady Queen of Peace Catholic Church, KU Uni City and HCDA Cooling stations among many others.

Achievements & Recognition

Architect Jerry is the lead consultant and founding director of Edon Consultants International Ltd since its establishment in 1989 to date. He is a member of the Architectural Association of Kenya (AAK) and the Board of Registration of Architects and Quantity Surveyors (BORAQS). Jerry was appointed as the Secretary General, African

Union of Architects in 1995 where he served until 1998. He was also the chairman of AAK since 1996 to 1998. He hence chaired the AAK Board of Trustees from 1998 to 2003. Jerry was also appointed Vice President of the African Union of Architects for East African region from 1998 to 2001 and subsequently, the Vice Chairman, Public Procurement, Complaints, Review and Appeals Board until 2004. He has remained the Senior Trustee of African Union of Architects since 2003 to date. Jerry will also be the director of Lake Victoria South Water Services Board, Kenya until next year 2015; a position he has served since the year 2012.

Design Advice

Jerry's best design advice would sound like a reminder to designers that "Form follows Function", a principle that will never change and the foundation of architecture. In his words, "People concentrate too much on the beauty and the form hence ends up creating buildings that do not function. Always let function guide the design; what is it meant to do? Function should be the first thing for an architect to put maximum emphasis on. There are three components of a design; function, cost and then aesthetics."

On the semi baked graduates joining the practice today, Arch. Jerry feels that absentee lecturers are to blame. Contrary to their time back in the 60's, today, most of the tutors in the institutions also own private firms and thus there is divided attention between the student and the business. The sharp young brains need more attention and committed training to produce quality at the market place. Jerry also calls on the professional bodies to involve scholars more by offering career talks to help them understand the real world.

Challenges

As it would be expected, success comes with its own share of huddles. Economic fluctuation has been one of the major challenges for Jerry; when the economy goes down, of the three basic needs to humanity, shelter is least prioritized. People will first consider food then clothing and shelter comes last. In turn, it is the architect who suffers in such a case as there is no work for him/her.

The other default challenge of nearly all professionals is Corruption. One cannot just quantify how much this vice has derailed professionalism.

Professional fees poses as the other challenge for architects, Arch. Jerry Ndong included. While the 6% may sound like a lot of money, mostly, by the time a project is complete, the money paid in small instalments is already consumed in the errands of the project and the pending balance may take forever to be cleared.

Competition between the big firms and the small firms is also graduating to a real challenge since small firms with fewer overhead costs charge way cheaper for a similar project that established old firms will require to charge huge money. This acts as a disadvantage to the old firms, like Edon, only salvaged often by capacity and experience as they can handle more work at a go.

Industrial Revolution

Arch. Jerry Ndong has been practicing for the last 32 years. Certainly, he has seen the best and the worst of the architecture industry in Kenya. He notes that overtime, the field has evolved for the better, especially for the last 10 years. He terms 1992 to 2002 as the darkest years of his business but since the new government took up from 2002,

there has been a lot of improvement. Looking into the post colonial period, Jerry remembers how the industry was white dominated with only a few African architects in practice. Of course, Architect David Mutiso formerly of MMI, the late Arch. Daniel Mutiso of Triad, Waweru Senior of Waweru & Associates and the late Arch. Ngotho of Studio House. At the time and unlike today, architects would get commissioning letters from the government in the post office having been given a job without having to pursue it.

A major revolution in the industry is the computer technology. Arch Jerry Ndong defines computing as one of the best things that ever happened to the design world. He totally appreciates the speed and efficiency offered by computers remembering how time consuming manual designs used to be.

Mentors/Inspiration

The first person who mentored and inspired Jerry locally was Kenneth Matiba. He was the Minister of Public Works when Jerry used to work as a Public Works Officer; he terms Kenneth's work ethics as strong and exemplary. He remembers that Kenneth would be in the office by 6.30am, latest 7am every morning and still he would be the last to leave! Arch. Jerry Ndong has maintained punctuality since then and until today; he is in the office everyday at 7.30am unless otherwise. He testifies that punctuality produces very good results. For his architectural work, he draws a lot of inspiration from nature.

Family & Personal Life

Architect Jerry Ndong is married to one wife with whom they co-direct Edon Consultants International. They have been married for the last 40 years and together they have three children; two boys and one girl. All their children are grown ups living abroad.

It is interesting to learn that Architect Jerry is also a hotelier. With his two sons in the hotel industry, he is also moving into the hospitality business in partnership with the sons. They have a hotel in Karen and a currently ongoing project in HomaBay for a hotel business.

Present/ Future Plans

Jerry and Edon are intertwined hence it is obvious that you cannot mention one without the other. The main and current project for his company, which is also Edon's biggest project ever, is the Standard Gauge Railway construction estimated to cost Kshs. 327 billion. The project team includes Apex Engineers, TSI Contractors from China and Edon International as the architects. Edon has been commissioned to build 33 gauge railway stations from Mombasa to Nairobi. Jerry notes that this is their ultimate growth but he is also keen to get the commission extended to Malaba, Uganda and Rwanda. The other current project is Bara Bara Plaza; KeNHA & Ministry of Transport is building its headquarters in Embakasi for all the road related projects. It is a World Bank project.

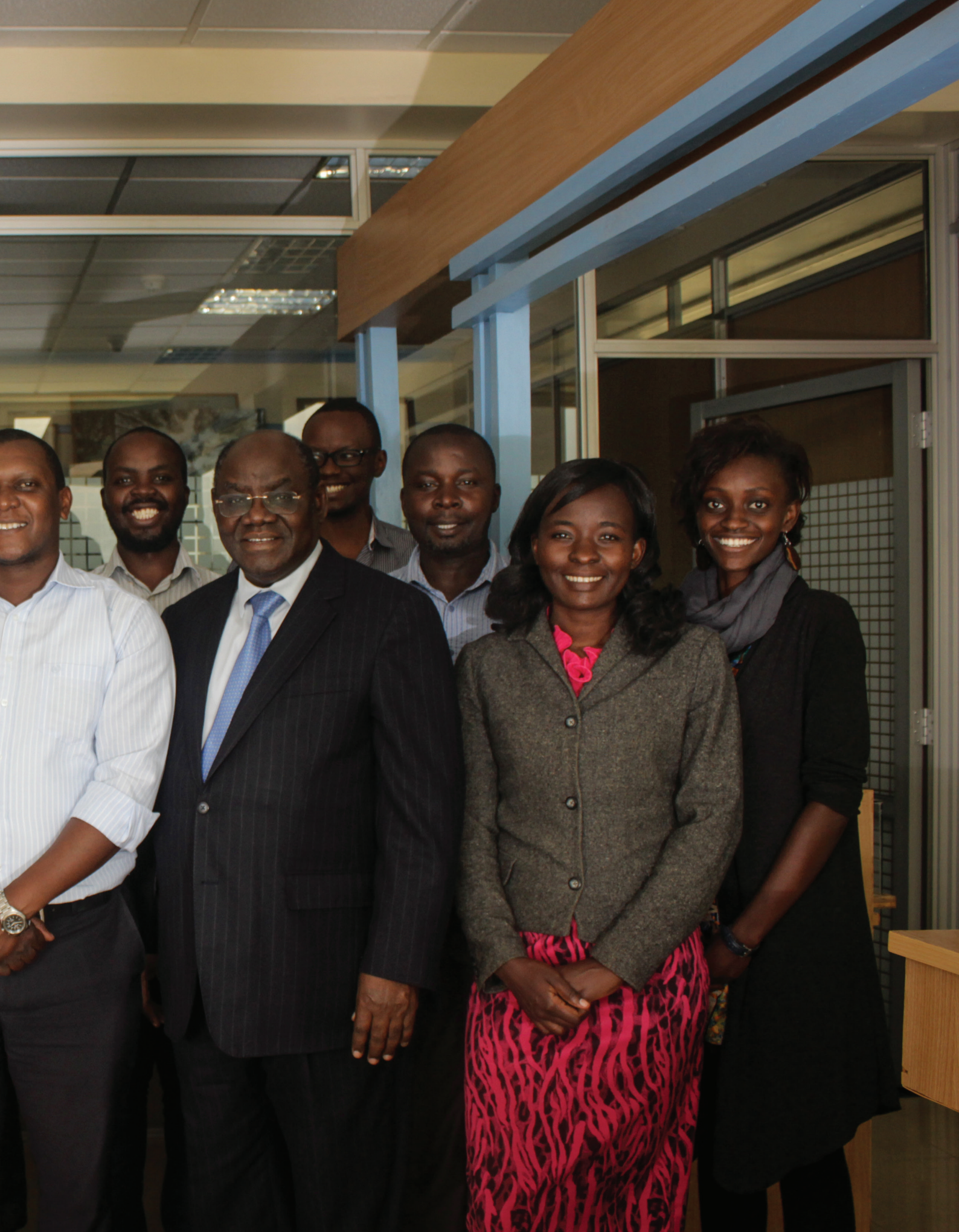
Jerry's plan was to retire at the age of 65, of which would have been next year; but with the Standard Gauge Railway project, he might have to review the plan, and hopefully retire at 70.

The succession plan for Edon Consultants International Ltd is well set in place with new directors who are ready to take position.

(Image courtesy of EDON Consultants, Article first appeared on BuilDesign)

EDON CONSULTANTS





TRAINING ON NON-DESTRUCTIVE TESTING



VERONICA M. MUNYAO

Between, 12th -14th July, 2017 we had a very successful short Sensitization training on NDT- Non-Destructive Testing at the Institute of Nuclear Science & Technology, University of Nairobi. We were trained on Liquid Penetrant Testing, Magnetic Particle Testing, Radiographic Testing, Ultrasonic Testing and NDT in Concrete. There are three levels of certification for NDT personnel, usually designated as Level 1, Level 2 and Level 3. I am aiming at Level 3 Certification.

What is Nondestructive testing (NDT)?

The field of non-destructive testing (NDT) comprises a vast array of analytical techniques that are applicable to a wide range of industries, ranging from Construction Industry, Oil and Gas to Aviation and Medicine.

Nondestructive testing (NDT) is the process of inspecting, testing, or evaluating materials, components or assemblies for discontinuities, or differences in characteristics without destroying the serviceability of the part or system. In other words, when the inspection or test is completed the part can still be used. These techniques can identify and assess defects and examine the properties of all kinds of materials and structures without causing any damage. As NDT in no way alters the part or structure under inspection, it is an extremely useful technique that can lead to cost and time savings when applied to product evaluations, asset management and fault identification and repair.

In contrast to NDT, other tests are destructive in nature and are therefore done on a limited number of samples (“lot sampling”), rather than on the materials, components or assemblies actually being put into service. These destructive tests are often used to determine the physical properties of materials such as impact resistance, ductility, yield and ultimate tensile strength, fracture toughness and fatigue strength, but discontinuities and differences in material characteristics are more effectively found by NDT.

Today modern nondestructive tests are used in manufacturing, fabrication and in-service inspections to ensure product integrity and reliability, to control manufacturing processes, lower production costs and to maintain a uniform quality level. During construction, NDT is used to ensure the quality of materials and joining processes during the fabrication and erection phases, and in-service NDT

inspections are used to ensure that the products in use continue to have the integrity necessary to ensure their usefulness and the safety of the public.

NDT Test Methods

Test method names often refer to the type of penetrating medium or the equipment used to perform that test. Current NDT methods are: Acoustic Emission Testing (AE), Electromagnetic Testing (ET), Guided Wave Testing (GW), Ground Penetrating Radar (GPR), Laser Testing Methods (LM), Leak Testing (LT), Magnetic Flux Leakage (MFL), Microwave Testing, Liquid Penetrant Testing (PT), Magnetic Particle Testing (MT), Neutron Radiographic Testing (NR), Radiographic Testing (RT), Thermal/Infrared Testing (IR), Ultrasonic Testing (UT), Vibration Analysis (VA) and Visual Testing (VT).

Application of NDT

NDT methods such as ultrasonic inspection, magnetic particle inspection, liquid penetrant testing, radiographic testing, remote visual inspection (using drones) and eddy current testing are now in standard use in civil, aeronautical and systems engineering. Advances in NDT enable the generation of 3D images of faults and have revolutionised many sectors.

Effective use of these methods by the respective professionals and authorities would be a solution towards the problem of collapsing buildings and other structures like bridges.



VERONICA MUNYAO

Ms. Veronica M. Munyao is an architect and an environmental design consultant. She holds a Bachelor of Architecture (B. Arch) - University of Nairobi (UoN). Veronica is very passionate about Green/Sustainable Architecture, community development programmes, youth mentorship and career guidance.

A WALK THROUGH THE NAIROBI CITY COUNTY NON - MOTORISED TRANSPORT POLICY



PATRICIA BAARIU

pkaramuta@gmail.com

The journey towards formulating a formal document to guide the process of planning, designing and eventually constructing infrastructure for Non-Motorised Transport (NMT) systems for the city of Nairobi took 22 years, having first been conceived by a convention of urban stakeholders dubbed 'The Nairobi We Want' back in 1993. Come 2015, the Nairobi City County Government launched the policy, which was as a result of research, stakeholder involvement and collaboration with the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and the Kenya Alliance of Residents Associations (KARA). The development of the policy was premised on the city's transport and mobility statistics which indicate that on average, 46.8% of complete trips around the city are made on foot or by cycling while on average, public transport accounts for 40.5% of the city's modal split. This means that majority (over 85%) of the population within the city walk or cycle, even though just as a last-mile connectivity means of getting from one place to another. Despite this, there is a gross under-provision of pedestrian footpaths and cycling lanes within the existing road network. Where these exist, they have not been properly designed for safety, accessibility (especially for vulnerable users such as children, women, the elderly and the physically challenged) or comfort for their users. This has led to there being high accident rates among pedestrians where for instance road accidents data in 2014 showed that of the total road accident fatalities, pedestrians accounted for 70%.

In order to adequately address the NMT challenges mentioned, the policy formulators addressed issues of NMT User characteristics, NMT User Requirements, Gender Dimension in NMT Use, NMT Supplier Requirements as well as the Benefits and Opportunities in NMT Investments. These issues then formed the basis of coming up with the general aim of the policy, which is to 'develop and maintain a transport system that fully integrates NMT as part of the Nairobi transport system.' Specifically, the policy aims to help in creating a safe, cohesive and comfortable network of footpaths, cycling lanes and tracks, green areas while putting in place a framework around which laws and regulations that shall guide the establishment, protection and

management of these accompanying NMT facilities.

The implementation and evaluation framework is based on the policy's five objectives; under which there are specific output and outcome indicators. The objectives are to increase mobility and accessibility, increase transport safety, improve amenities for NMT, increase recognition and image of NMT in Nairobi County and ensure that adequate funding/investment is set aside for NMT infrastructure. The expected output indicators attached to each objective are increased NMT space coverage, increased services along NMT facilities, safe NMT crossings, better designed streets and improved NMT user satisfaction. In order to specifically measure progress, the expected outcome indicators include increased modal share of cyclists and public transport, reduced NMT accidents, improved multi-modal network that includes pedestrian walkways and cycling lanes.

As part of the policy implementation road map, the formulators came up with a 'quick-wins package'; which are interventions that can be implemented within a short time, using small investments and having easily measurable immediate impacts. Some of these would include interventions to address safety for NMT users, security along routes as well as elimination of missing links and creation of barriers where required.



PATRICIA BAARIU

Landscape Architect/Environmental Policy

NAIROBI: THEN + NOW

MOMOH KAKULATOMBO

On the evening of May 24th 2017, professionals and members of the public were invited to “Nairobi: Then + Now” held at the Nairobi National Museum. This episode was one of a series of others held to celebrate the 50th Anniversary of the Architectural Association of Kenya (AAK) across the city. The audience and distinguished guests first participated in a slideshow screening in the Ford Hall. This was followed by topical discussions embracing aspects of Nairobi’s developmental progress since Colonial times.

An invited panel of architectural scholars and urban planners provided expert analysis. They included Prof. Tom Anyamba, Dr. Diana Lee-Smith and Tom Sitati. Presiding over the session as Moderator was Arch. Erastus Abonyo, an experienced member of the AAK community. In the spirit of acknowledging AAK’s milestones, the forum focused on Nairobi’s past and present built environment and described the contemporary debate about characteristics of the city’s existence. The session was opened by AAK President Emma Miloyo. Among other distinguished guests was Mr. Gad Opiyo, the Vice-President of AAK, and the President of the East African Institute of Architecture.

In a brief introduction, AAK Registrar George Arabbu said, “A team of architects and photographers fished old photos of Nairobi. Then they went back to Nairobi and shot the same scenes, from the same angles. What we see is basically a juxtaposition of old and new images.” With this primer, the audience navigated through the photos with commentary from Arch. Abonyo, who outlined a short history of Nairobi. The narration of Nairobi’s beginnings as a Railway Depot and Settler Town at the turn of the 20th Century and the establishment of AAK was neatly unraveled with the visual aid of rare photos.

A long standing member of the AAK and a prominent scholar, Prof. Tom Anyamba said, “Nairobi was a colonial City, a very exclusive City.” Colonialism is a chromosome in Nairobi’s DNA. In that era, Colonialists controlled every process, including the building practice. Throughout the city, many modern day adaptations are made in this context. In a photo set showing the transition of Sixth Avenue (present day Kenyatta Avenue), it was pointed out that the dimensions of this street width have hardly changed.

Yes, certain laws introduced aimed at segregating the races were enforced as a means of control by Colonialists. The kinships which emerged endured as microcosms of culture, a part of the legacy of Colonial rule. The River Road area was made up of a community of store owners, mainly of Asian heritage. The process of Indigenization, as was the customary Government plan in 1964, began to replace non-citizens in key areas of the economy; the same community returned years later to buy out the new tenants. The historical illustration shaped the dialogue about the image of Nairobians.

Defining this legacy brings sharp details of the way Nairobi works today — in particular, public access to the City. Times have changed and technology has improved. As we witness an increase in automation, the relationships between people, places and production in the city has grown into an ever more inter-dependent network. This is clearly seen in the means of communication used in the city. Photos of Nairobi’s skyline then and now are in complete contrast. Today’s commercial advertisements clothe the urban paths. With more than ten years of experience in studying branding concepts, Mr. Sitati commented, “A discussion of architecture is not only of buildings, or art, but also of networks. A lot of what has not changed is what we cannot see.”

Naturally, this discussion about the kinds of communication flowed into the question of the city’s identity. The building stock, in this respect, are artifacts of the environment. Nairobi City Market is one of the more prominent buildings that is under threat. The “Soko,” Kiswahili word for market, was designed and built during the 1950s. Situated in the heart of the city, it united African, Asian and Europeans in marketplace exchanges. Despite this anchoring historical importance, the panelists agreed that it was under threat now. Revitalizing programs for these places were encouraged as being important to the continuity of the city’s collective identity. Dr. Diana Lee-Smith, who has lived in Nairobi since the sixties, spoke strongly in favor of heritage preservation efforts. “The functioning of these spaces is important to keep along with the architectural significance. The function is in fact more important to keep,” she said.

The snapshots also captured the gradual increase of greenery on the streets, a healthy signal of everyday life in the city. However, as related by the moderator and panelists, Uhuru Park was once in danger of becoming the site of a 60-storey tower. Only the active protest and outspoken position on the part of the profession and individuals like the late Wangari Mathai saved the park from its fate. Traversing Nairobi’s timeline in thoughtful dialogue, the panelists isolated this consciousness as important in maintaining a wholesome connection with our natural environment.

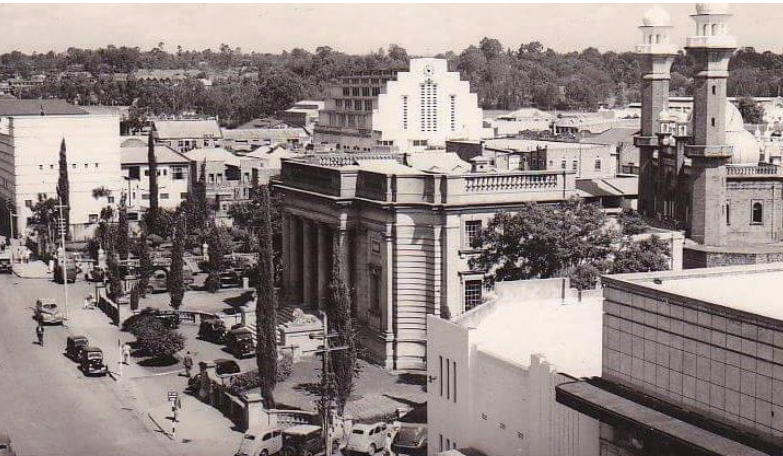
At the beginning of this presentation Arch. Abonyo remarked, “All these arguments will come to define what Nairobi is,” and at closing, the understanding imparted to the professionals and public alike was that collective, inclusive perspectives of Nairobi is a critical step in solving our urban challenges. Our best interventions as participants and citizens lie hidden in the act of transcending disciplinary boundaries and balancing stories of the natural and human environment. The experience of “Nairobi: Then + Now” echoed the idea that moving forward requires us to widen our field of awareness and chart our path so far together.



MOMOH M. KAKULATOMBO

Momoh Kakulatombo works as a reporter for the World Architecture Community in Kenya and is an avid enthusiast of the built environment. When he is not perusing the web for good articles, Momoh likes to spend time with his family and friends. Send him an email through momohkakulatombo@gmail.com

NAIROBI: THEN + NOW



AAK GOLF TOURNAMENT



Golfers at the AAK golf tournament engage in the game



AAK GOLF TOURNAMENT SPONSORS



BRUCE MUGOLA

WALKING IN DISTRESS

An academic friend once asked me, “is it interesting that Nairobi has traffic lights and traffic police at the same time?” Debates concerning vehicular traffic in the city usually leave the average city resident lethargic and not wanting to talk about it, as there seems to be no pragmatic solution to the matter at the present.

Maybe the solution does not lie in vehicles as they go to form of mobility. Maybe the solution has been below our scope of vision all this time. Our feet! Since inception human beings are hardwired with the desire to walk (maybe this goes in hand in hand with our desire to discover, adventure & conquer). A small child rises to walk and falls so many times that in time she gets the drift. Walking has been our primary source of mobility, and before the industrial revolution, it's what centered the growth of communities. Today cities are inevitably centered on cars. Cars have become the fundamental component when planning for them. From shaping the basic household resident with a car park (nowadays one car park is not enough) to whole neighborhoods and cities with the emergence of car parks, underground parking and storied parking.

Walking in Nairobi's designated footpaths has almost become hazardous. Apart from the thousands in pedestrian traffic, the footpaths, are broken and unrepaired, informal street vendors are everywhere, unruly matatu drivers reverse, park, drive and overlap on footpaths. This has become the everyday for the average pedestrian in the city. So what has changed in terms of mobility, how did we move from humanistic societies to societies deprived of their intrinsic values? A lot of things, from colonialism mindset to industrialization concepts to postmodernism cultures. All this, inclusive of others, have brought this situation where one has to walk on vehicular roads and leave the footpaths to informal vendors to sell their merchandise. A solution to the predicament could lay in social inclusivity. A student project in Kisumu addressed the problem by working with three guiding principles: accessibility, flexibility and safety. These three factors should be present in the re-configuration and development of the streets to accommodate all users, not only the cars.

Accessibility - pedestrians and vendors should be prioritized. Good connections for pedestrians throughout the city should be emphasized.

Flexibility - The streets should be flexible for many public, private, cultural and economic uses throughout the day.

Safety - Emphasis should be put on safety on the streets. Pedestrians should feel safe to walk the streets.

Based on the site analyses and workshops they carried out they were able to come up with guidelines that can be formulated within the urban functions of public services, sidewalks and car lanes. These guidelines can be used as tools by decision-makers to develop the street to have the needed elements for facilitating vendor activity and the general public.

The guidelines included instructions concerning: public waste management, public washrooms, public water harvesting, public

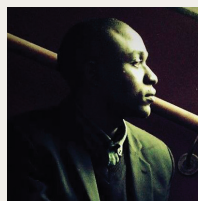
workshops, storage facilities, greenery, street furniture, pavement, drainage, crossings and traffic.

The project is a start and a good attempt to show that with social inclusivity and a change of mindset on the part of decision makers urban pedestrians can no longer walk in distress but delight.

“If you plan cities for cars and traffic, you get cars and traffic. If you plan for people and places, you get people and places.” - Fred Kent

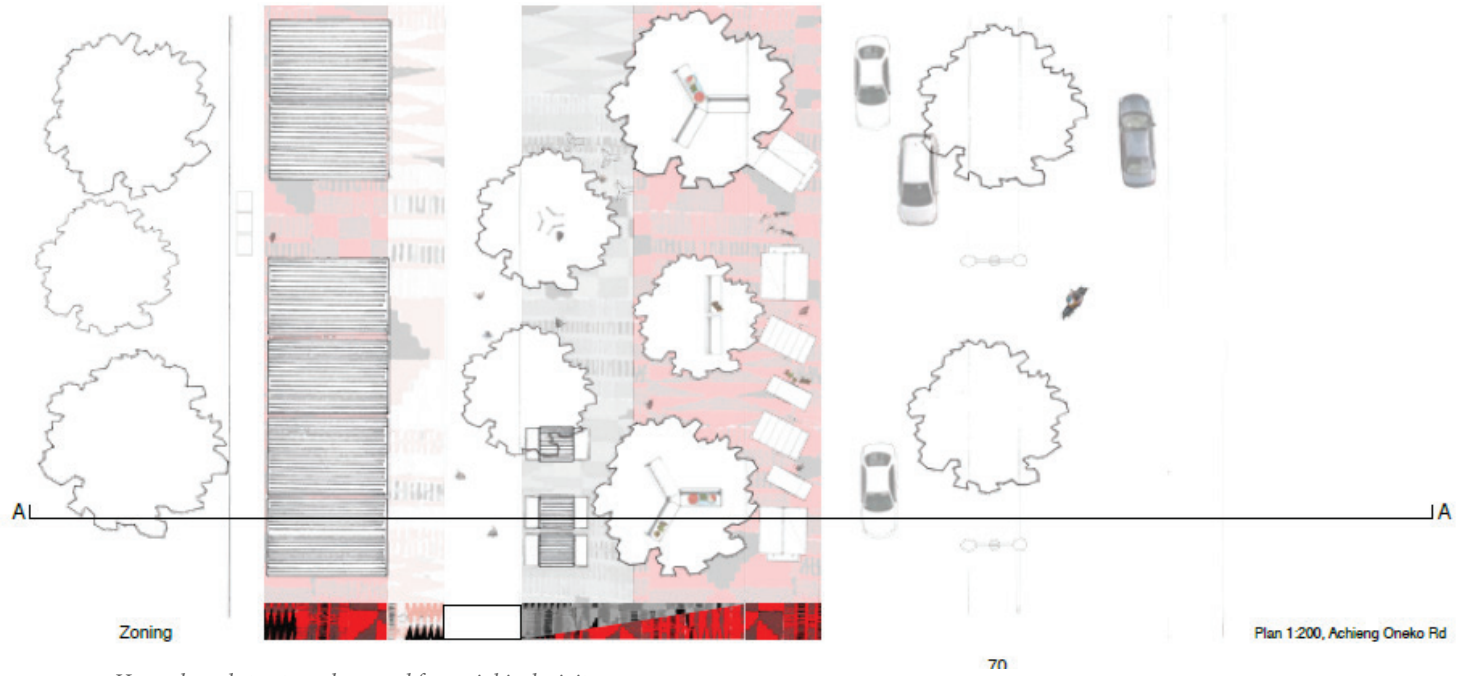


A design guideline to be used as street furniture



BRUCE MUGOLA

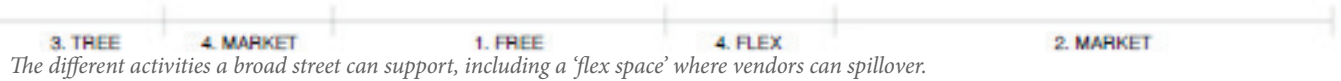
A landscape architect who writes analytical and innovative pieces on African architectural context and blogs as archlandblog.wordpress.com



How a broad street can be zoned for social inclusivity



Pavement



PICTORIAL

AAK GALA DINNER AND LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS, RADISSON BLUE



Former AAK president Waweru Gathecha handing over to incoming president, Emma Miloyo



A well attended AAK Gala Dinner at Radisson Blu

ARCHITECTS CHAPTER BREAKFAST CPD SEMINAR, SWISS INTERNATIONAL HOTEL



Members keenly follow seminar proceedings



AAK Architects Chapter Council Members in attendance



Arch. George Arabbu moderates a panel discussion from left, Arch. Robinson Manguro, Arch. Caleb Mutali and the Marketing Manager, Resolution Insurance/Mega Health, the sponsors of the event



Arch. Caleb Mutali presents on the Salutogenic Factor in the creation of healing environments

MENTORSHIP TALK #03, BY MASS DESIGN GROUP ADD- UON



Arch Christian Benimana gives a talk in a mentorship talk.



Arch. Jean Paul presents to students at the mentorship talk

KENYA UNIVERSITIES AND COLLEGES CENTRAL PLACEMENT SERVICES STAKEHOLDERS MEETING

Stakeholder's meeting with KUCCPS to discuss cut-off points for entry into Universities and colleges.



Left: Arch. Patrick from BORAQS engages with Stakeholders.



Right: Arch. Florence Nyole from AAK offers a way forward on courses in the Built Environment

THE ROAD THAT BECAME A STREET

ERIC KIGADA

One thing I believe the road authorities have to learn is to know when a road becomes a street. The dynamics by which a road becomes a street in Kenya have always fascinated me. I have witnessed such a transition at a place called Membley along the Eastern Bypass. It's the end section of the Eastern bypass that connects Thika Road and Tatu City. At a roundabout you join the Northern Bypass. This section of the road has two lanes which has been built smack in the middle of a 60 meter road reserve. For a time, there was hardly anything along the road to warrant stopping. All buildings faced away from the Bypass. Animal feed stores reflecting the rural nature of the area and gradually sand and stone sellers set up shop on the road reserve. They were soon followed by hardware stores. The buildings had started to face the Bypass. Rental houses came up. Garage and spaces store found place there and churches were advertising their presence along the road. Last year, over a weekend, the road authorities erected bumps to slow down traffic to allow turning in and off the Bypass. Because Kenyans drive by memory and not by street signs, for a week there were numerous accidents as a 100kph zone turned into a 50kph zone road overnight. The road had become a street. The problem is this is not how the authorities view the Bypass. In their plans and mind, it is meant to be a highway with no stopping allowed.

What is the difference between a road and a street? A road connects two areas that are a distance apart from each other. A road cuts through a landscape to connect the two areas. A Street is a road that is flanked by buildings on both sides. Generally the buildings face the street. Since a road cuts through a landscape while joining the areas, it attracts settlements to it. These are those dukas one sees along Kenyan roads. If traffic stops at such a place, it grows and soon there are settlements on both sides of the road. As a result people on both sides will want to interact with each other, meaning they will be crossing the road. Now keep in mind, this is a road i.e. traffic on the road is still or mainly intended to use the road for its original purpose as an expressway which is to travel from point A to B. People crossing the road are a nuisance. This is where conflict arises. A few pedestrian deaths and probable revenge metttled out on cars. Kenyan road authorities then erect speed bumps on the road (due to public demand). Some places erect illegal ones. Speed bumps give credence to the settlement and soon a market develops. The settlement increases congestion on the road forcing the road authorities to "expand" it. This mostly means building a dual carriage road. The businesses along the road resist the expansion because faster moving traffic means less business. The road authorities are sometimes forced to compensate the businesses along the road though they are situated on government owned property. Some time back, residents in Kisumu outskirts refused for a new ring road to be built through their village. I remember some comments from people who said that those guys didn't know what they were doing and they were foolish. The main reason for refusing, they knew that interaction with their neighbours across the road would forever change once the road is built. We are

struggling to enforce highway discipline along our roads. I think the only road where it works well is the Southern Bypass. Somehow we have kept houses form facing the road. Where they do face the road, a wall has been built to prevent further "encroachment."

How can such a situation be avoided? Kenya is urbanising at a rapid rate. Currently we are at 23% urbanization. There is no developed country with less than 70% urbanization of its population. Roads will become streets. The process needs to be controlled or it will lead to unplanned cities and towns. Twice now I have experienced politicians making unilateral decisions to ease congestion by having roads built through people's properties to appease a constituency. One road was in a place away from where a road had been demarcated so as to get a "straight" road. To avoid such situations, we have to find a way for all the agencies: City Planning, County Government, Road Authorities, and Professionals especially Land Surveyors to work together on a single comprehensive master plan of urban areas and cities. We have to resist allowing buildings to face major highways. Major highways are detrimental to people's health especially noise pollution. We think bars are bad, but try sleep next to a major highway & count how many times you wake up at night because a truck is shaking your bed or some car has screeched to avoid a crash. The current strong selling point for real estate in Kenya is being next to a highway. This will not last for long. A city has to balance between major, minor roads and streets. Streets are where speed limits are kept at 30-50kph, Minor roads 50-80kph and Major roads 80-120kph. The Major road is the one that does point to point connection with no turnoffs along it. If we stuck to this principle of making sure buildings do not face or are accessible from major roads, then we would not be struggling to enforce 50kph speed limits on huge sections of Mombasa Road or Thika highway.



ERIC KIGADA

Eric holds a Masters degree in Architecture from The RWTH University of Aachen, Germany and is registered as an architect in Kenya with the Board of Registration of Architects and Quantity Surveyors (BORAQS) and the Architectural Association of Kenya (AAK). He is the principal of B&A Studios and architectural practice based in Nairobi, Kenya.

COMMITMENT AMONG STAKEHOLDERS TOWARDS PHASING OUT OF LEAD IN PAINT

Lead is widely used in the manufacturing processes in Kenya. It is among the elements that are highly toxic at all concentrations with no known biological function. Much of the exposures to lead are as a result of human activities including the use of leaded plumbing systems and ceramics, manufacturing of paints, open burning of materials containing lead, and recycling and manufacturing of lead acid batteries.

Exposure to lead in paint is one of the most common causes of clinical lead toxicity. This is due to paints being extensively used in homes, schools, building, toys, furniture and playground equipment. Paints containing lead are also used in industries, vehicles and in road marking. Previously painted surfaces with lead containing paint deteriorate over time, peel off and become airborne. Motor vehicle paintworks that involve sanding of painted surfaces and welding are the major sources of exposure. Renovations, demolitions and re-painting activities may result in lead containing dust. Lead materials that are usually in powder form in addition become airborne during manufacturing of paint. Airborne lead is highly persistent in the environment and settles down as dust. It is easily inhaled, ingested and contaminates the soil or water and get into human beings through the various food chains.

Anyone can be poisoned by lead and the most vulnerable groups are children, pregnant women and workers. Children are susceptible to the neurological effects of lead. It has been established that there are no safe levels of lead exposure. Even very low levels of exposure result in permanent damage to the central nervous system that lead to behavioral and learning deficits. The human brain has little capacity for repair and hence the effects are permanent. Children under the age of 6 years absorb lead five times more than adults. This is due to increased hand to mouth activities, extended outdoor activities, not fully developed hygienic habits, active metabolism and not completely developed brain barrier and other systems. Lead exposure therefore adversely affects the developmental process. Children who suffer from malnutrition can also absorb lead at increased rates.

Lead in paint was identified as one of the emerging policy issues during the second International Conference on Chemicals Management in 2009. It was for this reason that Global Alliance to Eliminate Lead in Paint was launched under the leadership of World Health Organization (WHO) and UNEP in order to protect human health and the environment. The goal of the Alliance is to focus and catalyze the efforts of diverse stakeholders to prevent children's

exposure and minimize occupational exposure to lead in paint. The overall objective is to establish legal limits and phase out lead in paint by the year 2020. This undertaking is comparable to previous concerted international efforts that encouraged national regulatory actions to eliminate leaded petrol.

This year, Kenya joined the rest of the Global Community in marking the 4th International Lead Poisoning Prevention Week of Action (ILPPWA) that falls on the last week of October annually since 2013. A series of related collaborative events were undertaken during the 4th National Lead Poisoning Prevention Week of Action from 24th to 29th October 2016. Among these activities, UNEP organized a video-footage with participation of informal paint manufacturers, Crown Paints, schools and Kenyatta National Hospital to highlight practical issues on the ground about lead poisoning. This was aimed at creating awareness to prompt action towards Establishment of National Standards and Regulations to Eliminate Lead in Paint. These activities are available on the UNEP website: "Lead, the silent killer stalks Kenya's paint industry, UNEP"

The activities subsequently culminated into a one day workshop whose theme was "Building Commitment among Stakeholders and Collaboration towards Establishment of National Standards and Regulations to Eliminate Lead in Paint" The event was co-hosted by Mombasa Technical Training Institute, the University of Nairobi, Kenya Industrial Research and Development Institute and Eco-ethics Kenya on 29th October 2016. The activities were sponsored by Crown Paints.

Mombasa County had previous incidents of lead poisoning involving a poorly controlled battery recycling facility. The contaminated site requires massive resources to clean-up, not to mention the associated medical treatment of the affected and long-term legal and socio-economic consequences of the loss of lives. The humid and saline conditions of Mombasa further contribute to higher levels of exposure to lead due to accelerated deterioration of paint.

NATIONAL LEAD POISONING PREVENTION WEEK OF ACTION 24TH – 29TH OCTOBER 2016

Building Commitment among Stakeholders and Collaboration towards Establishment of National Standards and Regulations to Eliminate Lead in Paint

Hosted by the Mombasa Technical Training Institute in collaboration with the University of Nairobi, Kenya Industrial Research and Development Institute and Eco-ethics Kenya on 29th Oct, 2016

Main Sponsor



Event Sponsors



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YOU CAN STOP THE POISONING OF KIDS NOW

EAST AFRICA INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING IN DAR ES SALAAM

THE BODY PARTS OF EAST AFRICA

1. INTRODUCTION

“Umoja ni nguvu na Utengano ni udhaifu”

The body parts of East Africa
Tanzania is the conscience - Head
Kenya is the industry - Thorax
Uganda is the beauty - Body
Rwanda is the Action – Legs
Burundi is the prodigal son.

“Everything that has a beginning, has an ending. Make your peace with that and all will be well.” As my predecessor Architect Robert Kiggundu once said the term of this office expires before the ink on your signature can dry up. Today I stand before you to give my maiden but last report.

May I paraphrase Abraham Lincoln “A house divided against itself shall not stand” So I say a divided East Africa shall not stand. Because we have come together today with the unity of purpose to build The East Africa Institute of Architects, East Africa will stand. In the short time we were in office, with the able support of my team we have scored a number of firsts with the hope that there shall be transformation and progress of the Institute. Even though we serve at different times we are pilgrims on the same journey for a grand and prosperous East Africa Institute of Architects.

2. MRA

We come to Dar with the belief that our Tanzania brothers will finally live up to the true meaning of their creed by putting their hands on the MRA. This is a major milestone in the achievement of our key objectives. East Africa community was established with a vision to set up a prosperous, secure, stable and politically united East Africa through widening and deepening cooperation among the partner states in political, economic and social spheres.

3. EAIA WEBSITE

For the first time EAI has a website. We have fulfilled the mantra of the new generation that if you are not in the cyberspace then you are nowhere, you don't exist. EAIA can now interact with the world wide audience. It is our rebirth into the digital age. We shall now conduct all our business on line; Students design competition, sale of documents and storing all our records & reports in the cloud amongst others.

4. STUDENTS DESIGN COMPETITION

Another first. All entries this year were done on line. Making it cheaper and efficient. The jury has a back end access making real time collaboration a reality and eliminating the necessity for a physical meeting to identify winners as all this can be done on line in real time. The icing on the cake is that all entries plus the winning entries will be accessible on line for public review and posterity. This will enhance Architectural experience and education in our region. We should encourage our students and professionals in the region to continuously review these entries so that we can develop our indigenous discourse in Architecture.

5. ONLINE SALE OF DOCUMENTS

Yet another first! We have a module for selling documents on line. Initially it will be the blue book (standard EAIA contract) and

compendium of documents. It is much cheaper and efficient to distribute documents online and production cost is nil. The advantages over the printed hard copy are innumerable. A classic case of killing two birds with one stone. We will make the documents widely available to the whole world and generate revenue to the institute. Each document will have a unique identity to discourage unlicensed reproduction. Payment will be made online through mobile payment and credit cards directly into our bank account hence enhancing accountability and transparency.

Unfortunately change does not come easy as the board of practice continued to print and sell hard copy documents despite several requests to provide a soft copy and adopt online sale. It is called technophobia. It is our humble request that this AGM passes resolution that the new board of practice must adopt online sale of documents for the institute to reap the benefits of e-commerce and technology.

6. E-NEWSLETTER

It is all first. We now have a newsletter. This will be produced twice a year. One after council meeting in Arusha and the second after the AGM in the host countries. The Secretary General in office at every AGM is requested to hand in photos and all reports to Think Synergy our website manager for storing in the cloud, production of the e-newsletter and updating of our website. Special thanks to the secretary general Arch. Mumbua Musyimi for this achievement. Your prodigious energy is a pillar of this institute.

7. AUDIT

It is need lees to mention that for the first time we have an audit report on which we can build our cooperate governance going forward. Special thanks to Arch. Alex Nyaga and Our auditors for making this dream a reality.

8. STRATEGIC PLAN

Once more for ‘the first’ time we were unable to deliver a strategic plan. However the council from the proposals received should identify and appoint a consultant who will help us put this in place in the current season. I would challenge my successor to make this the high point of their term. Kenya has laid the substructure, I believe Tanzania will finish the superstructure by January when we meet in Arusha.

9. APPRECIATION

My team, Words are not enough to express my gratitude. As I wrote this report I could not believe how much we have achieved in such a short period of time. Mumbua I salute you, Mugambi I salute you, Alex I salute you, Juma I salute you, Jacob I salute you and Mugure I salute you. Our web site developer and Auditors I salute you. My indebtedness to you is forever. Like I always say a speaker without an audience is like a king without subjects. Thank you all for standing with us and giving us the opportunity to serve you. Thank you AAT for hosting us and taking the baton. We wish you a successful term in office.

“Blessed are those who make short speeches for they shall be invited to speak again”

By your Servant
Gad Opiyo, Architect
President EAIA



East Africa Institute of Architects Council



Arch. Gad Opiyo hands over to Arch. Mwoleka as President of EAlA



Outgoing Team conducts the AGM - From Right. Arch. Alex Gachanja - Treasurer, Arch. Marylyn Musyimi - Secretary General and Arch Gad Opiyo - President



OUR ROLE IN A GROWING ECONOMY

The Nairobi skyline (www.onetouch.co.ke)

WAIRIMU MAINA

As I write this, I am currently in a heated discussion on Twitter about urban poverty and who is to blame. It is sometimes getting very politically charged but every so often, we stumble upon a common truth. As we exchange, refute and rewrite our personal truths, it has led me to wonder what role I play in creating our problems. Where have I, as an architect, gone wrong? But most importantly, what can I do to help?

Kenya is on the verge of massive urbanisation and at the rate we are developing, we are not only on track to being one of the most urbanised countries in Africa but also to achieving a middle-income economic status. But what does this mean for us as planners, architects and engineers? What role are we meant to be playing to ensure that this growth is realised? It does not take a long stretch of our imagination to see that the backbone of our economy is firmly rooted in infrastructure. From the Lamu Port to the newly launched SGR to the explosion of commercial and residential construction we are seeing coming up all across the country. From my standpoint, our industry has reached a level where only our imagination can hold us back.

However, here's where I raise a challenge. It seems we are building for the few and forgetting the majority. 60% of our urban population lives in poverty and it is foreseen to grow even further on the current trajectory we are on. We seem to forget, not just as professionals but as citizens, that while we go full steam ahead, we inevitably left people behind. People who need housing, health, schools, roads and whatever else is available to the rest of the population. We have created over the decades, an environment where you can either have the 'growing middle class' lifestyle or you can struggle and try to survive in the backroads of society. One thing that our online discussion underlined was that on some level, we are all responsible for the city we live in and in that responsibility, we are all burdened with the ability to change it.

We, in the construction industry, are in a unique position to effect change. We not only imagine and reimagine the physical space in which we eat, live and work, but we have the power to imagine and reimagine social, environmental and economic interactions. Believe it or not, by choosing these careers, we have taken on the task of speaking for others. I believe that most of the time, we don't do it consciously. But what if we did? What

if we looked around us and strived to understand the problems that we can solve? Imagine the spaces that we can create to drive political change or allow for positive social interaction or inspire innovation and economic growth. What if we imagined creating not just for beauty but for innovation and growth. That is the power we have been given. The ability to change how society will behave in this new era of growth.

As the cities grow, we are required to take a step back and really look deeply into understanding what our urban environments need to be. Not just in singular buildings or gated communities but in their totality, how people move, how neighbourhoods interact, how people create civic space. All these dimensions are important as big cities like Nairobi and Mombasa embark on challenging restructuring projects. Professionals are put in a unique situation where they can take their time to observe the use of space and adapt it to the changes that have occurred and will occur over time in our cities. I am worried that in restructuring, we may fail Kenyans by taking our imagination and imposing it on them instead of taking their imagination and building on it. I say this because the more I interact with people from different backgrounds, the more I hear the question, "Who told them we need this?" And that I believe is a very critical question in design. Are we listening and understanding what the people want? We do this very well for our well-paying and very vocal clients. We need to do this for the voiceless clients as well and these do not just include the urban poor but the middle class who shop in a mall for example or children who go roller skating in the city centre on a Sunday afternoon. It includes the families relaxing on the grass at a roundabout or the abandoned space that has been adopted by soccer players. We need to listen and design for these people as well and impact their social lives as much as we possibly can.

Which brings me back to my earlier point of the urban poor. Looking at the way we are developing and designing, it would be hard to explain to an outsider that we have Kibera in Nairobi or Bangladesh in Mombasa or Nyalenda in Kisumu. We have been conditioned not to think or design for those who do not affect us and yet our cities cannot effectively compete on a global platform if we keep ignoring their existence. Such a large portion of our population cannot and will not go away quietly and if we want to be able to continue building groundbreaking

Neighbours. (Drone photography: Johnny Miller - Thompson Reuters Foundation)

developments as we are, we must equally consider the people at the bottom of the ladder. I believe if we imagine and create with the whole population in mind, the whole society becomes stronger and grows faster because we have more people empowered enough to push the city further. And it mustn't take a lot to change how society interacts. An escalator in a poor neighbourhood in Medellin cut the crime by more than half. It was the only development put in place but it allowed people to simply get from one place to another faster. In Rio de Janeiro, a massive painting project in the favelas ended up creating new channels and communications and developed employable skills. These are innovations that we have seen in our cities although at much smaller scales and they will remain small if we do not equip the slum communities with the resources that we have and they need. It would be a deception to believe that our cities can become a global force if we continue on the current trajectory. We should either all move forward or wait for our steam to run out and move backwards.

There's a saying that goes: You are only as fast as your slowest man and we are currently moving very slowly. We are expected to compete with cities around the world that are already exploiting their unique challenges to create necessary and lasting innovative solutions. In Porto Alegre in Brazil, they use a Participatory Budgeting system that redirects funding to pro-poor development which has led to better service provision, improved housing and greatly improved health. In India, there are partnerships between building professionals and communities that innovate and train on new affordable building materials.

In our slums right here, self-help groups are pooling resources to build much-needed sanitation facilities while others are creating space for social integration. People will continue fighting their challenges with or without our help. The youth will continue to skate in empty streets and abandoned parking lots, people will still relax in dangerous parks and roundabouts, open fields will continue to fill up with neighbourhood games. However, our work is not to stop and admire their tenacity.



WAIRIMU MAINA

Wairimu Maina is a Sustainable Urbanism expert with a focus on the socio-economic impact of urbanization on marginalized populations. She holds a BArch. from JKUAT, Kenya and MSc. In Sustainable Cities from Aalborg University in Denmark.

We are severely limiting our ability to create shopping malls and commercial buildings, beautiful as they are. We were put here to help imagine socially cohesive urban environments. We were put here to ensure our environment makes us a better, stronger society. Let us stop limit ourselves unless we want the world to move on without us.



Favelas in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil were painted to encourage dialogue and develop local skills. (www.designboom.com)



External escalators in Medellin that have drastically reduced crime in the city.

STUDENT PROFILE

WENDY AKHWIBISA MUDOGO

Year 5, Department of Architecture, TUK

What is your experience in architecture school?

I am so grateful to attend architecture school. I have grown so much as a person thanks to the knowledge and skills that architecture exposes me to. A lot of growth I have also attained by overcoming the challenges that studying architecture poses to an individual. Overall architecture school is a fun life experience for me. I have met a lot of talented and like-minded individuals that I call my classmates; studying together for over 5 years has made us develop a deep sense of camaraderie that is the best support system for one to have. It has also been great to listen, learn and exchange ideas with seasoned and experienced architects in the field as my Professors in school and Guest speakers during those informative architecture community events held by the AAK.

What interesting project have you worked on during your coursework and internship?

There is no other interesting project than the present one. This semester we are doing an urban design project on a site right on the edge of the CBD; the railway land. This site is actually where Nairobi started as a railway depot. From our studies we have identified that our site will be absorbed by the CBD as it expands. The project is interesting to us in a way that we must now rethink and design the functioning of a new urban area and also how to integrate it to the already existing urban environment. Personally I believe the future of the modern city is a mixed use scenario where people live, work and recharge in the same area.

What do you do when you aren't studying

I enjoy the practice of yoga. Yoga allows me to keep fit while at the same time connect with my mind and body. The practice also allows me to relax and meditate; a skill which I find crucial in the creative process. With my yoga practice, I have been able to push myself to the edge eliminating the idea of a comfort zone in my life.

Architecture; Is it a pain or a prize

Similar to life, architecture is one long bumpy ride full of ups and downs. I have been through both extremes and all I can say is that it is worth it. The skills and knowledge I have acquired through my short study of architecture helps me in every aspect of life. The resilience I have perfected by rising up after every challenge is a gift. All I can say is that architecture is a sweet pain and a prize.



What is your take on Architecture for mobility

In Nairobi city there are many barriers to mobility. I believe architecture can improve physical mobility (transportation) in the city by lobbying for adoption of other alternative means of transport like non-motorised vehicles like bicycles and also providing lanes for them on the Nairobi streets. Providing well defined pedestrian paths on all roads will also encourage walking in our city which is great for mobility. Architecture can also find a way to accommodate mobile street vendors and informal traders into the city's urban fabric while still maintaining "social order".

What do you think is the single most important issue that architects must address in this era

Social housing. In our country and most of Africa we have a housing problem in our cities. Fellow human beings do not have decent housing and are forced to settle in slums where they live in deplorable conditions. I therefore believe as architects in this era we need to do everything possible to provide good and affordable housing for everyone.

Where do you see yourself academically, socially and professionally in the next 5 years

I will be finally a registered architect running my own practice. I will be writing about architecture and architects, travelling the world and sharing knowledge. I will be a certified yoga instructor guiding people through their yoga practice. I will be a boss lady entrepreneur running various business ventures. I am very optimistic of the future.





WALK WITH WIRE EVENT

Walk with WIRE event & Students were sponsored by AAK architects chapter

At a student Mentorship Workshop that was held at TSAVO Architects office, I listened to presentations that focused on the changing reality of work and how to maximize our return on luck. I was struck by the fact that most people are feeling the effects of rapid changes in the global economy. The premise was that luck, good and bad, happens whether we like it or not and it sometimes erodes our sense of connectedness and community.

"Maximizing my return on luck"..... Immediately, I wondered what my dad would have responded to the idea of bad luck. "Bad luck? You go to work to work and when you keep hitting walls of resistance, the universe is trying to tell you that you are going the wrong way and you need to change course," he would have probably said.

But I believe a large part of the change we experience can be classified as beta and gamma change. For those who do research on change measurement, alpha change is the real change in something that is being measured. Beta change is the recalibration of what good or bad is. Gamma change is the redefining of the concept being measured. The latter of the two types of changes occur within the person assessing the scope of the change they are seeing. They are not based on the objective reality of how much change has occurred. Mr. Nathan Kureba of BORAQS who was a speaker at the student workshop added that there is a large component of change that comes from within us. This creates a challenge, as we focus on the external change that we can't control, and ignore the changes in our expectations that we create for ourselves. By identifying and understanding our own role in creating change, we can gain some control of our world and reduce the stress we feel.

When Leonard Mcharo of TSAVO spoke, he stated without being gaudy that less is more. And he told the architecture students: "The discipline of the route." Buildings are not experienced whole, but as a series of experiences. Orchestrating those, and making sure that the visitor is always oriented to the whole, is the only basics of good architecture. "You employ stone, wood and concrete, and with these materials you build houses and palaces. That is construction. Ingenuity is at work. But suddenly you must touch a heart, you must do well, you must make someone happy so they can say: 'This is beautiful.' That is Architecture. Art becomes a key factor." Much like that favorite story we heard as a child, read to us by a loving parent over and over again, we never got tired of it. There was always something new as we imagined the story unfolding every single night. Good architecture is just like that great story. We never tire of it. This is what all should aspire to do – at least once in life. This should be why they became architects. "I have long maintained that Architecture is a reflection on the culture which births it. Buildings do not just happen. They happen within a context. A physical context, and economic context, a social

context, and a cultural context. All of which play a vital role in both how a building looks and how it is used. While I could argue that this is true of all buildings, I think it is especially true of public buildings. Most building projects are undertaken with no real thought given, it is important to realize the extent to which they reflect. Material choices, formal relationships, functionality, usability, siting, etc. All tell about what is important to our community.

Are we progressive or regressive? Do we value the activity for which the building is designed? Do we value our history? Are we looking to our future? Do we value community or are we isolationists? The list goes on..... This is what those in attendance were able to pick from Mr. George Arabbu of AAK. Robyn Emerson of Women in Real Estate (WIRE) while passionately talking about mentorship, challenged the audience by saying that "Our Young Professionals are reaching out to us; we should be reaching back. The role of the emerging professionals is expanding especially for women in real estate. Our leaders are starting to understand that without mentorship, we can't move forward. Small firms are standing up and speaking out. Women are leading and being recognized. Together, our diversity is enriching our story." Robyn finished her speech by encouraging students to appreciate mentorship opportunities offered to them and never to take them for granted. The event, which was sponsored by NIC Bank, BORAQS and AAK attracted many participants who were majorly undergraduate students in the Departments of Architecture and Design at Technical University of Kenya, Jomo Kenyatta University of Agriculture and Technology, University of Nairobi and the school of Art and Design and NIT Presentations. These took place in a two-day workshop. I got a chance to interact with the very enthusiastic students who happen to be the best of the best in their schools. I asked them what separates them from their peers studying other courses.

And these were their responses:

- We are the only ones who;
- Wake up to go to school and we're already there.
- Are told "good morning," and we reply "good night."
- Hear the same song on the radio 3 or more times in one night.
- Loose our house key and realize a week later.
- Are experts in Photoshop, illustrator and auto cad but we don't know how to use MS excel.
- Know all the 24-hour food places in the area.
- Say "It's only midnight- I have plenty of time to finish."
- Have given a final presentation with the fly open.
- Think that any flat surface is a place to take a nap.
- Refer to outside studio as the "Real World."
- Tell people we major in "Architorture"

AAK CO-OPERATIVE SACCO LTD



Some of the attendees of the AAK Sacco AGM: **Standing from left:** Matias Kabiru, Charles Andala, Phillip Koteng (Vice Chairperson), Susan Ndungu (AAK secretariat), Silas Kipkoros, Paul Aloyo, David Songoro. **Seating from left:** Christine Atieno (Treasurer), J.N. Gachanga (Cooperative officer), Festus Litiku (Chairperson), Ann Omufira (secretary), Daniel Gichuki (Auditors)

The Governing Council of the Architectural Association of Kenya-AAK, held several meetings in the year 2009 and 2010 and reports from the Executive Committee deliberated on the need to form a Society for its members. Subsequent to these, a resolution was passed by the Council members during the 43rd Annual General Meeting held in March 2010 that gave life to the AAK Sacco Ltd.

The Society is registered under the Ministry of Industrialization, trade and cooperatives and is governed by the Co-operatives Societies Act CAP 490 and Sacco ByLaws.

The Sacco draws its members mainly from the Architectural Association of Kenya which is an umbrella association for professionals engaged in the built and natural environment. They include architects, quantity surveyors, engineers, town planners, environmental design consultants, landscape architects and construction project managers. Membership to AAK Sacco is also open to immediate family members of these professionals and staff of firm members of the Association. Currently, the SACCO has over 100 members and continues to grow steadily. The Sacco is currently chaired by QS Festus Litiku. The chairman has continued to encourage new members and their staff to join the society and especially the younger members of the Association to develop a culture of savings and investments.

The management committee constitutes of the following:

Chairperson – QS. Festus Litiku
Vice Chairperson – Arch. Phillip Koteng
Secretary – QS. Ann Omufira
Treasurer – Ms. Cristina Atieno
Member – Arch. Matias Kabiru
Member – Arch. David Songoro

The management committee carried out a Strategic Planning meeting at Convent International Hotel at Lavington in Nairobi on March 2017. The one day deliberations enabled the management of the Sacco to tackle issues relating to emerging trends in the sacco industry and to formulate a document that will ensure members needs are met through the development of new products and improved services. Among what was deliberated and agreed includes the objectives, vision and mission of the society.

Objectives

- Afford members an opportunity for accumulating savings
- Carry out investments
- Create a source of funds for lending to members

- Perform the function and exercise the powers designated for Savings and Credit Co-operative Societies under the applicable law for the benefit of the members.

Vision

- To improve members' quality of life through financial empowerment
- Mission Statement
- Mobilizing resources, invest and provide financial services

Core Values and Principles

Professionalism
Integrity
Accountability
Transparency
Efficiency
Respect

Benefits of joining the Sacco

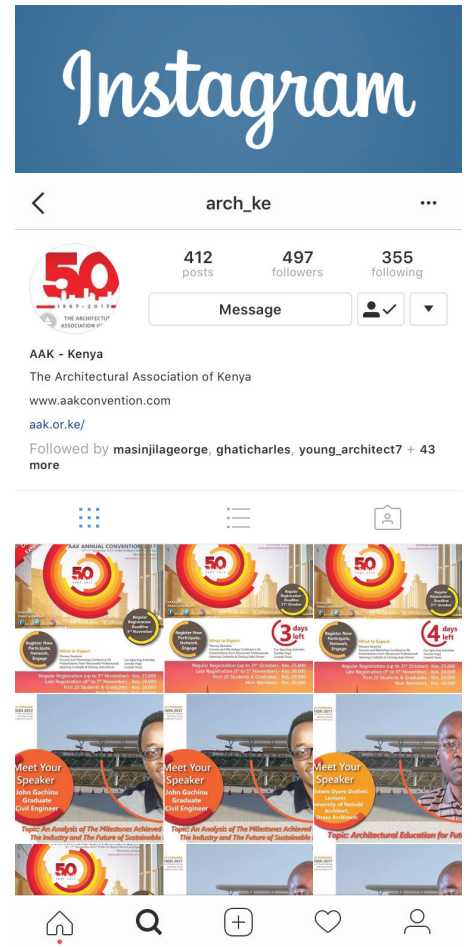
- Cultivate a savings culture
- The Sacco provides you with affordable credit products.
- One is able to borrow up to 3 times their deposit.
- You stand to earn dividends
- Benefit from subsidised facilities through our partnerships with other organisations. E.g Subsidised Car insurance.

**Phillip Koteng,
Vice Chairperson,
AAK CO-OPERATIVE SACCO LTD.**

To enroll as a member,

Pay non refundable Registration fee of ksh. 2500 through:

- Mpesa Buy Goods Number 723578
 - Airtel paybill Nickname: AAKSACCO
 - Deposit to AAK Sacco Account Number: 0-1120199836300 –AAK Co-operative SACCO Ltd, Co-operative Bank, Parliament Road Branch.
 - Cheques payable to AAK Co-operative SACCO Ltd.
- Fill a registration form under available at www.aak.or.ke under the resources and downloads section and return the form to the AAK secretariat at AAK offices.
Minimum monthly share contribution is ksh. 1,000



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| 804 | CAVANAGH J.A. | 500 | B EGLIN D.W. | 2807 | KARIUKI S.M. | 3213 | MAKAGUTU N.O |
| 889 | GITOHO J.N | 670 | BHULLER M.S. | 3676 | KARIUKI W. | 2174 | MAINA D. |
| 363 | KAPILA S. | 2372 | BISHER FA. | 2737 | KARUGA V. | 1401 | MAINA J |
| 1563 | KARURI L.G. | 1856 | BOWMAN T.S. | 1376 | KARUGO P.M. | 3262 | MAINA R.W |
| 839 | KEBATHI S. | 4023 | BRAND DEN W.V | 1032 | KARUMI P.K | 1695 | MAINGI P.M. |
| 595 | KIMATHI J. | 1464 | CHANGILWA S.A. | 2468 | KASANGA S.M | 3265 | MALECHE D.S |
| 950 | KUNGU P. | 2415 | CHARFARE A.A. | 1873 | KASSIM M.O. | 3397 | MANGO A.O |
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| 1040 | MUNGAI F.G. | 2719 | CHIIRA M.J.M. | 2191 | KEDOGO J.F.M. | 2116 | MATIVO J.K |
| 1758 | MUNYANYA M.K. | 54 | CHUDHA J.S. | 3126 | KETOYO L.M | 2599 | MATOLE D.K. |
| 5 | MUTISO D.M. | 828 | DIANGA S.O. | 1311 | KHAN A.L. | 954 | MATASYO J. |
| 729 | NJENDU K.J.G. | 3629 | EBOYI J.I. | 2321 | KIAI S.K. | 1139 | MATHAROO S.S. |
| 741 | NDONG J.E.O. | 4024 | ECKOLDT.A.C | 2716 | KIBISU L.L. | 548 | MBINDA J.J.M |
| 1322 | NGUNJIRI P.G. (PROF) | 1452 | EL-MAAWY M..A (MS) | 2615 | KIBOWEN K.C | 1882 | MBICHA S. |
| 640 | MUTISO R.G.M. (DR) | 1189 | FERNANDES S. (MRS) | 2616 | KIBAARA I.M | 2390 | MBOGO D.C. |
| 1515 | SIKA P.O. | 2429 | GACHANJA J.K. | 2819 | KIBE G.M | 2982 | MBOGO S.M |
| 636 | SIMU A.C.M. | 3382 | GACHANJA P.K. | 1186 | KIBUE S.N. (MS) | 3096 | MBUGUA H.K |
| 288 | WAWERU J.G. | 2386 | GATAI H.M. | 1176 | KIBWAGE J. | 891 | MBUGUA N. |
| 824 | GITHUNGURI G.N. | 3060 | GATHECHA N.N | 2595 | KIGADA E.E. | 3147 | MBURU E.G |
| 931 | MUSYOKI N. | 1269 | GATIMU D.N. | 2587 | KIGAI E.K. | 2438 | MECCA J.P |
| 2084 | GATHECHA W. | 1312 | GICHOHI J.N. | 1326 | KIGONDU S. | 1230 | M'GITHAE B.N. |
| | | 2515 | GICHUGU E.G. | 3138 | KILONZI A.K | 2010 | MILIKAU E.S |
| | | 1559 | GICHUHI F.M. | 2714 | KIMANGA S.K. | 2512 | MILOYO E.K |
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| | | 2548 | GITHATU F.G. | 2736 | KINYUA E.G | 1809 | MONARI A.O. |
| | | 2344 | GITHENDU J.G. | 2640 | KIOKO M. | 2156 | MOTANYA D.O. |
| | | 1838 | GITUTHU P.M | 1614 | KIPKETER J | 542 | MRUTTU I.R. |
| | | 2182 | GREMLEY A.J. | 1629 | KIPSANG' TITUS | 2738 | MRUTTU .O.S |
| | | 1465 | GRONLKKE T. | 1939 | KIRATHE E.M. | 2240 | MUCHAI J.M. |
| | | 2155 | GUCHU J.K. | 2975 | KITHISYA D.K | 1765 | MUGO E.D.G |
| | | 800 | HANJARI G.B. (DR) | 2308 | KITHAKA J.M. | 3282 | MUIRURI I.N |
| | | 748 | HAMEED SALMANN M.M | 749 | KITHAKYE D.I. | 3326 | MULANGO S.S |
| | | 1981 | HASHIM N.O. | 3221 | KISIENYA K.B | 2872 | MUKUI M. |
| | | 3336 | HOFF J.H | 1801 | KOECH M.K. | 2077 | MULI P |
| | | 1746 | IKINU O.W. | 2418 | KOMORA S. | 1211 | MULI S.K. |
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| | | 3433 | KABIRU M.N. | 1913 | KURIAH P.J. | 2593 | MUNGAU K.J.S.A. |
| | | 2749 | KABUTU J.W | 1034 | KUREBA N. N. | 1785 | MUNYIRI J.K |
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| | | 2080 | MAGAMBO J.K. | 3304 | LAGAT D.K | 938 | MURIMI N |
| | | 1634 | KAHURA C.M. | 529 | LALL C.J.S. | 3439 | MUSYIMI M.M |
| | | 1065 | KAISI K. | 2445 | LATI FELIX | 2382 | MUSUNGA M. |
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| | | 3301 | KAMAU K.M | 1560 | LORD M.A. | 1743 | MUTHUSI P.M. |
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| | | 2413 | KANYUA W C | 3872 | MANANI K.O | 3398 | MUTUA U.M |
| | | 1183 | KANYANGWESO J.O | 2669 | MABONGA W.D | 2102 | MUTUKU M. |
| | | 1341 | KARAGO J. | 1807 | MACHARIA F. | 1745 | MUTUKU J.N. |
| | | 2647 | KARAMA Y.B | 2992 | MACHARIA J.M | 1143 | MUTUNGA J.M.F. |
| | | 944 | KARANJA W.M. | 1669 | MACHARIA J.N | 2337 | MWANGI B.G. |
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| 1721 | ABONYO E.O. | | | | | | |
| 1505 | ABUNGE O.O | | | | | | |
| 1931 | ACHARYA T.S. | | | | | | |
| 2826 | ACHANDO J.A | | | | | | |
| 1701 | ADEDE G.O. | | | | | | |
| 2132 | ADEYA A.M.O. | | | | | | |
| 2851 | AGUTU M.I.A | | | | | | |
| 2381 | AGWARO K.O. | | | | | | |
| 1830 | AIZPUN F. | | | | | | |
| 3932 | AJEGA K. SYLVIA | | | | | | |
| 2655 | ALI L.I | | | | | | |
| 3119 | ALOYO P. | | | | | | |
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| 475 | ARCHER J.H. | | | | | | |
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| 1275 | NIXON R.A. |
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| 2451 | NYONGESA A.W |
| 933 | NZIOKA S.N. |
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| 1218 | ODIDA O.R |
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| 1810 | OGUNDE O.O. |

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| 2379 | OHAWA E.K |
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| 2518 | OJWANG' P.O. |
| 2934 | OKELLO N.J.O |
| 1694 | OKELLO O.O. |
| 1846 | OKELLO J.F |
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| 3291 | OKUTA H.O |
| 1885 | OLAWO G |
| 3320 | OLUOCH G |
| 2597 | OMENYA A.O.(DR) |
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| 3300 | ONGUKA L.A |
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| 3851 | TURYAHABWE R |
| 912 | VAGADIA G.M. |
| 275 | VAULKHARD T.G. |
| 1653 | VIRDEE A.S. |
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| 3283 | WAHOME C.N |
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| 2405 | WAMBUA J.M. |
| 2897 | WAMBUA P.K |
| 1118 | WAMWANGI J.M |
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| 2995 | WARFA A.R |
| 1029 | WASIKE P.S. |
| 2154 | WASILWA PO |
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| 563 | WILL PA. |
| 1078 | WOODS S.R |

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| 1628 | MWACHARO M.S. |
| 2502 | NJERU P.M. |
| 1986 | OWENDE M.O. |
| 1328 | WACHIRA S.K. MAJOR |
| 2228 | BARASA I.B. |
| 2166 | DEYA E.O |
| 2184 | KAMAU J.N. |
| 3905 | KAWUNDI F.L.O. |
| 2814 | KIBUCHI D.L. |
| 2343 | MABIA G.K. |
| 4091 | MANYINSA N.J |
| 3877 | MAINA G.G |
| 2392 | MBURU G.K. |
| 2129 | MUCHEMI S.N. |
| 2813 | MUCHUNU A.M. |
| 3363 | MURIANTHI N.N |
| 4256 | MUREITHI .G.J |
| 4033 | MUTUA M.J |
| 4012 | MUTUNE T.K |
| 3055 | MUTHUI K. E |
| 2401 | NJAGI D.I. |
| 2178 | NYANGWESO M.O. |
| 2688 | KUOGOH G.N |
| 2637 | OKICH P.O |
| 4092 | ONGONG'A J.C |
| 3095 | OTIENO P.G.J |
| 4245 | RIOBA .E.A |
| 3054 | WATAKO |
| 1788 | MWAURA A.M. |
| 4207 | ALI .A.H |
| 2436 | AKALI.G.M |
| 4208 | ATIM J |
| 4201 | BETT K. L |
| 4143 | BUKANIA S.N |
| 3369 | VAN DER EERDEN J.F.M. |
| 3732 | ESMAIL FJ |
| 3232 | ESSENDI S.M. |
| 3899 | FEI Q |
| 3436 | GICHURU V.W |
| 2499 | GIKUNDI J |
| 4134 | GITARI W J |
| 4263 | GITAU .K.E |
| 3680 | GITHAIGA D.M |
| 4113 | GITHAIGA .G |
| 3451 | GITHINJI K.M |
| 3365 | GITHINJI F.N |
| 3202 | ISOE D.M |
| 3303 | JACKSON M.M |
| 3962 | JALAKHAN ZAINAB |
| 4167 | KAMANJA .J.B |
| 3250 | KAMUNYU |
| 4166 | KALANI E.M |
| 2143 | KAGWI S.G. |
| 4126 | KARUMA K A |
| 4101 | KIMANI MUCHIRI |
| 3901 | KAMAU J.N |
| 4252 | KAMAU .S.W |
| 3422 | KAMAU G.K |
| 4133 | KAITESI F |
| 4177 | PIGOTT S.K |
| 2385 | KEEGA J.K. |
| 1817 | KIARAHO D.N. |
| 4164 | KIMANI C.N |

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| 3510 | KING'E V.N |
| 4169 | KING'ORI B.K |
| 3309 | KINYINGI JULIANNE |
| 4131 | KIRUMA J M |
| 4174 | KOECH K.G |
| 3183 | KORIR M.F |
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HAS A UNIT OF
MEASUREMENT

Tile & Carpet Centre is pleased to be associated with the Architectural Association of Kenya on the commemoration of their 50th Anniversary of offering exceptional service to Kenya and beyond. For a profession where success hinges on project craftsmanship, aesthetics and service, we are proud to be the AAK's preferred interior building products partner for many years and we envisage many more to come. **Happy 50th Anniversary.**

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