



RESEARCH AND ADVOCACY NEWSLETTER

ABOUT US

Advocacy without evidence is futile. AAK promotes integrity and professionalism in the built environment industry through research and advocacy activities. This newsletter will highlight the monthly happenings to inform members and the public what R&A has been up to.



MEET THE A-TEAM

Guided by the R&A committee chair Arch. Florence Nyole and the AAK CEO Jacob Mwangi, the department entails:

- Michelle Ouma- Research Officer
- Oloo Adhiambo- Advocacy Officer
- Cynthia Nthenya- Research and Advocacy Intern.



AAK CEO Jacob Mwangi, Cynthia Nthenya, Michelle Ouma & Oloo Adhiambo

2022 OUTLOOK

01 PARTNERSHIPS



IPP AAK, Arch. Mugure Njendu, PS Solomon Kitungu & AAK President Arch. Wilson Mugambi during the launch of the Healthy Homes Guidelines and Checklist

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY INTERNATIONAL (HFHI)

AAK partnered with HFHI to conduct a housing impact assessment study to assess the effect of COVID-19 pandemic on housing in the Nairobi Metropolitan region. Using the findings, we developed the Healthy Homes Guidelines and Checklist which was launched on 18 November, 2022. The framework provides for and demonstrates a pathway to achieving healthy and resilient housing at a household and community level in simplified form.

The framework is applicable when building, improving or maintaining a house, or at a higher level for making policy and investment decisions. We will be conducting countrywide trainings on the guidelines this year.

STATE DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING & URBAN DEVELOPMENT

The AAK in partnership with the SDHUD undertook a collaborative design workshop intended to improve the design of the proposed Ruai Market.

The technical committee finalized the project through a report. The department has published and archived the report as part of the AAK's R&A library.

KENYA CLIMATE INNOVATION CENTER AND EIT-CLIMATE KIC

The Wood Architects Rockstar Initiative sought to assess the viability of wood as an alternative building material. The Association plays a key role in promoting and advocating for sustainable ways of construction in the country. The project aimed to explore ways to push for lowering the cost of timber and related housing technology in Kenya through policy advancement and research.



Participants of the Wood Architect Rockstars Initiative

PARTNERSHIPS

KOUNKUEY DESIGN INITIATIVE (KDI)

The 3iF – Integrated and Inclusive Infrastructure Framework, is a practical guidebook for infrastructural provision in informal settlements in Kenya. The framework can be applied by different actors in projects geared towards informal settlement upgrading. It plays a huge role as a guide in developing policy, and planning, designing and implementing infrastructure upgrading projects, to reduce inequality and promote shared prosperity.

In the second phase of the 3iF project, AAK will mostly play an advocacy role in publicizing the framework across its networks.

AAK/UN-HABITAT URBAN THINKERS CAMPUS 7.0



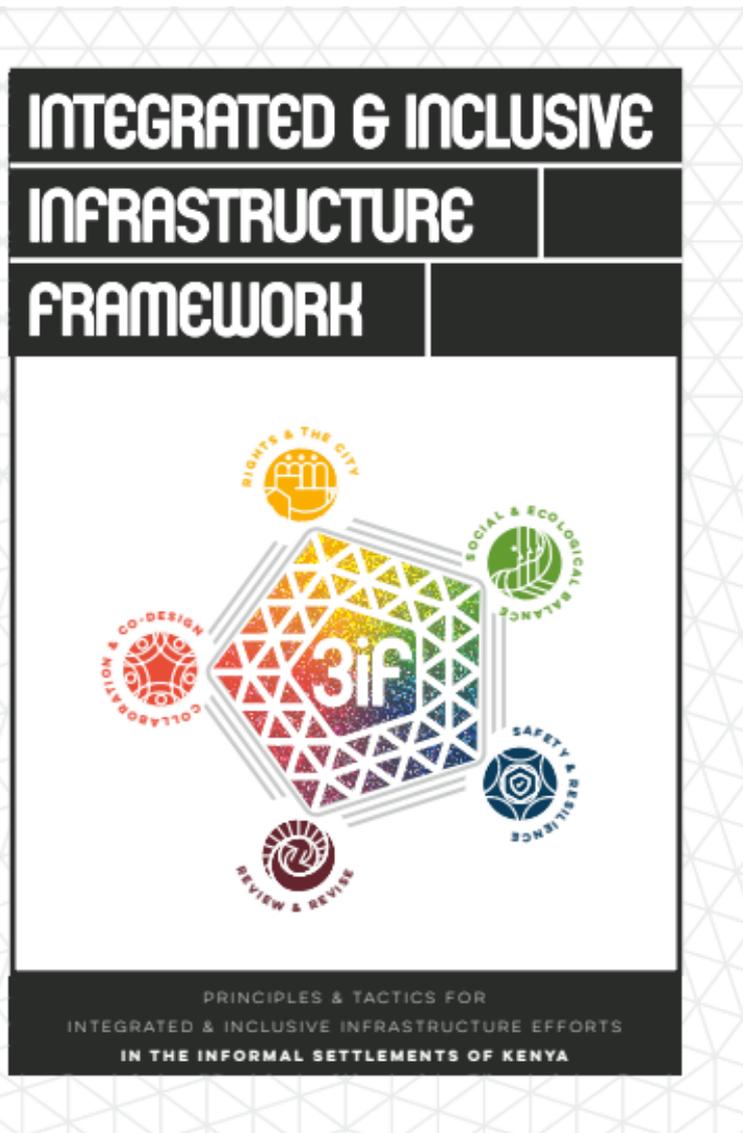
AAK/ UN-HABITAT Urban Thinkers Campus 2022

Essentials of City Building: Managing Urban Development



Together with the World Urban Campaign under UN-Habitat, the Association hosted the Urban Thinkers Campus 7.0! This was a 3-day campus spread out over two weeks with 40 speakers and a total of 530 attendees from 14 counties. These were Kenya, Uganda, Ethiopia, Malawi, Nigeria, South Africa, London, USA, United Kingdom, Mexico, Norway, India and Malaysia. The theme Essentials of City Building: Managing Urban Development envisioned a more sustainable future through observance of standards and principles of planning to provide an environment where people have rights and access to the benefits and opportunities of inclusive cities. AAK will be hosting another Urban Thinkers Campus 8.0 this year.

Read UTC 7.0 report: shorturl.at/KSXY3



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CAMPAIGNS AND PROJECTS

JE, UNA MJENGO?

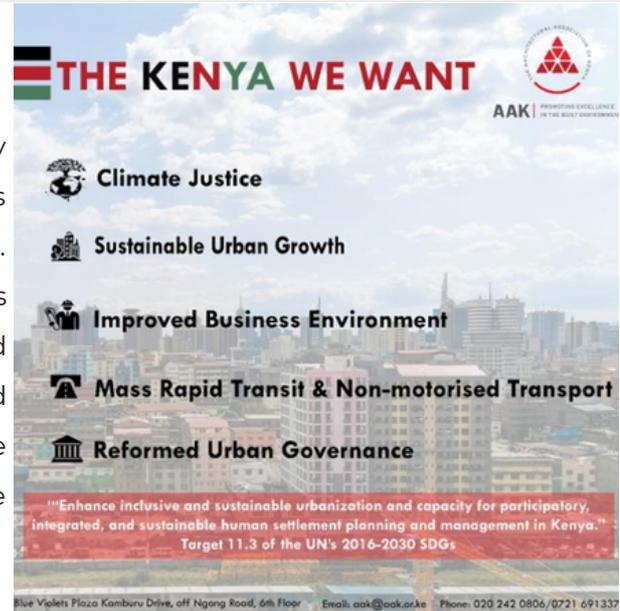
The campaign aims to sensitize the public on safe and healthy buildings with an objective of creating awareness about the built and natural environment. This is very timely as rapid urbanization has resulted in an increase in housing demand and the challenge of collapsing buildings in Kenya due to quack developers taking advantage of underserved communities. This year's campaign is scheduled to be launched in May and will run through the rest of the year with chapters conducting their own campaigns. The campaign targets to create a mind shift amongst the general public with regards to matters building in Kenya, emphasizing on the importance of using professionals and following the right channels and procedures when building.



Arch. Diana Machoka, Arch. George Arabbu & AAK VP Arch. Florence Nyole in a panel discussion during the Architect's Chapter Je, Una Mjengo? CPD session.

THE KENYA WE WANT

The Campaign is conducted every election year. It outlines key areas in which the incoming government should concentrate its efforts and gives policymakers more detailed recommendations. The campaign focused on the 5 areas and used online debates and dialogues hosted on twitter spaces, seeking to spark and continue conversations for a better Kenya. AAK developed and sent a matrix of issues that affect the industry and should be prioritized to all governors. This will be the basis of engaging the new governors over their tenure.



AAK PROMOTING EXCELLENCE IN THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

WE CELEBRATE YOU!

INTERNATIONAL Youth DAY



Theme: Intergenerational Solidarity; Creating a World for All Ages.

#YouthBuildingKenya

#Voluntarywork

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INTERNATIONAL YOUTH DAY & #AAKTOHEWORLD

AAK Joined the world in commemorating IYD by featuring youth doing exceptional work in the built industry. We also congratulated and publicized members of the association taking up leadership roles or representatives in regional and international organizations in the sector

The social media campaigns also featured the youth in AAK leadership, previous AAK staff and AAK youth partners.

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WORKING GROUPS

AAK is represented in several working groups in the built industry. These include:

Just City Working Group

There are 5 working groups under the just city working group. The five working groups are based on the five pillars of socially just public transport; availability, accessibility and affordability, inclusivity, sustainability, and human rights and equity.

National Housing Coalition

The department is also currently in talks with Haki Jamii, the convenor of the National Housing Coalition in Kenya, to be added to the coalition.

World Urban Campaign 2022

As an organizer of an Urban Thinkers Campus 2022, The R&A department is participating in the World Urban Campaign's Communications, Events, & Engagement working group.

Nairobi Urban Planning Technical Committee

The Vice Chair of the Architects' Chapter, Arch. Brenda Nyawara is a member of the committee which is mandated to evaluate and approve development applications and county leases, and advise on policy and legal aspects.

AdHoc Committee for Conferment of Eldoret Municipality to City Status

AAK Vice President, Arch. Florence Nyole is a member of the AdHoc committee which will consider the recommendations to elevate Eldoret Municipality to City status and provide advise as appropriate



L.Arch. Ruth Wanjiku (in red) participating in the Urban Planning and Lands working group at the workshop for Influencing Socially Just Public Transport Pathways into the Nairobi CIDP

"AAK is represented in various working groups..."

Activity	Date	Location	Attendees
Africa Association of Quantity Surveyors- Executive Committee Meeting	March 2022	Rwanda	QS. Mary Odhiambo, QS. Alfred Aluvaala
Affordable Housing Activation forum	May 2022	Madrid, Spain	Arch. Wilson Mugambi, Arch. Mumbua Musyimi
Africities Summit	May 2022	Kisumu, Kenya	Arch. Florence Nyole, Arch. George Arabbu, Prof. Alfred Omenya
Africa Housing Forum	May 2022	Nairobi, Kenya	Arch. Florence Nyole, Arch. Emma Miloyo, Arch. Wilson Mugambi, Arch. George Arabbu, Arch. Mugure Njendu, QS. Patience Mulondo
Africa Association of Quantity Surveyors- Executive Committee Meeting	July 2022	Mauritius	QS. Mary Odhiambo
Commonwealth Association of Architects (CAA) 23rd General Assembly	August 2022	Port of Spain, Trinidad and Tobago	Arch. Wilson Mugambi, Arch. Steven Oundo
International Federation of Landscape Architects- IFLA World Congress	Aug- Sept 2022	Gwangju, Korea	Arch. Wilson Mugambi, L.Arch Ruth Wanjiku
Pacific Association of Quantity Surveyors Congress	September 2022	Marina Bay Sands Convention Centre, Singapore	QS. Mary Adhiambo
Africa Association of Quantity Surveyors- Executive Committee Meeting	November 2022	Mombasa, Kenya	QS. Mary Odiambo, QS. Alfred Aluvaala, QS. Patience Mulondo

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LEGISLATION

During the year, the department managed to comment on laws and regulations affecting the built environment. These include:

- Urban Areas and Cities (UACA) Regulations 2021
- Landlord and Tenant Bill
- Draft Environmental Management and Coordination Act (EMCA) 2021
- Building Audit Taskforce on the Proposed Building Audit in Mombasa 2022
- Draft Sector Plan for Population, Urbanization and Housing (MTP IV 2023-2027)
- National Building Code; AAK also participated in the stakeholder validation forum organized by NCA in May.
- Land Control Bill;
- Attorney General Instruction to Parastatals & Government Agencies in Arbitration.
- Draft Land Adjudication Bill;

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LETTERS

AAK sent several advocacy letters to various government institutions highlighting challenges and giving recommendations to improve the industry. We also wrote to all elected and nominated leaders, offering AAK's support in leveraging ways of making the sector more vibrant and efficient. The letters were sent to:

- Newly elected governors
- Newly appointed Permanent Secretaries
- Newly appointed Cabinet Secretaries
- Kiambu County Government
- Ministry of Transport, Infrastructure,
- Housing, Urban Development and Public Works; Ministry of Environment and Forestry
- Nairobi Metropolitan Services (NMS)
- Ministry of Lands and Physical Planning
- Public Service Commission



H.E. Governor Wilber Otichilo with AAK CEO Jacob Mwangi after a meeting to discuss how AAK can support and partner with the county

"AAK is keen on leveraging ways of making the sector more vibrant..."

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PICTORIALS



Hybrid session during the AAK/UN-Habitat Urban Thinkers Campus 7.0



AAK Secretariat during the annual President's dinner 2022



Panel discussion during the launch of the Healthy Homes: Guidelines and Checklist



Architect's Chapter Je, Una Mjengo? CPD Seminar



Senator Gloria Orwoba during the launch of the State of Housing Report Vol. 3 by Haki Jamii



R&A team taking part in the construction of a house by Habitat for Humanity Kenya in Homabay County



AAK Vice President and R&A Committee chair, Arch. Florence Nyole participating in a panel discussion during the launch of the ESG agenda by KGBS



Participants of the first-ever Pecha Kucha organized by R&A department during the annual AAK Convention 2022



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