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Press Release: 2024 AUHF Affordable Housing Awards: Celebrating Innovation, Impact, and Progress in Affordable Housing

Zanzibar, Tanzania, 17 October 2024 – The 2024 AUHF Affordable Housing Awards, held at the prestigious AUHF 40th Anniversary Gala Dinner, recognized exceptional projects and individuals driving transformative change in Africa’s affordable housing sector. Hosted by the [African Union for Housing Finance \(AUHF\)](#), these awards celebrate innovation, sustainability, and impact on affordable housing development across the continent.

Mildred Mutesa, Vice Chairperson of the AUHF, remarked, “As we mark the AUHF's 40th anniversary, we also recognize the pioneers and innovators driving change in affordable housing through the AUHF Affordable Housing Awards. These awards highlight the tremendous progress being made by AUHF members and non-members alike, acknowledging the projects, individuals, and organizations breaking new ground in this critical sector.”

This year’s winners include:

- **Affordable Housing Construction Lender of the Year**
[Watumishi Housing Investments \(WHI\)](#) – Awarded for its innovative Real Estate Investment Trust (REIT) model, which pools institutional resources for large-scale affordable housing projects. This model has proven instrumental in Tanzania, addressing Africa’s housing deficit by leveraging investments from social security and insurance funds.
- **Affordable Housing Lender of the Year**
[Zambia National Building Society \(ZNBS\)](#) – Awarded for its impactful mortgage solutions, specifically tailored for low- and middle-income households, and its partnerships to extend housing finance to underserved areas. Its focus on sustainability and innovative products exemplifies its dedication to affordable homeownership.
- **Cheapest Newly Built House by a Private Developer**
[Bitprop](#) – Awarded for creating affordable rental units that prioritize quality and sustainability, Bitprop’s designs cater to local preferences and needs. Bitprop’s scalable approach offers low-cost housing options, balancing affordability with minimal maintenance.
- **Financial Inclusion Initiative of the Year**
[Yaam Solidarité](#) – This community-based organization in Burkina Faso received the award for its participatory approach in developing housing solutions. Through community involvement, Yaam Solidarité ensures housing projects are accessible to disadvantaged populations, fostering inclusivity and empowerment.
- **Greenest and Most Sustainable Affordable Housing Development**

[ADHI Africa Holding Limited](#) – ADHI’s environmentally friendly, patented building system combines sustainability with cost-effectiveness. The award recognises ADHI’s commitment to addressing Africa’s housing needs while prioritizing environmental impact.

- **Most Innovative Housing Public-Private Partnership**
[Greater TAF City](#) – Awarded for its planned mixed-use development in Rivers State, Nigeria, Greater TAF City blends affordable housing with sustainable infrastructure. The project stands out for its use of biodigester sewage systems and innovative financing, promoting both affordability and environmental responsibility.
- **Most Innovative Property Technology of the Year**
[Empowa](#) – Empowa received this award for enabling affordable, climate-smart housing through green loans and advanced technologies, which directly benefit underbanked communities. Empowa’s ecosystem model is reshaping housing finance for financially excluded populations.
- **Most Promising Emerging Affordable Housing Developer**
[Zima Homes](#) – Zima Homes was awarded for its impact-first approach to homeownership, combining data-driven design and innovative funding models. Currently in its pre-scale phase, Zima Homes’ approach emphasizes design, functionality, and accessibility, positioning it as a transformative force in affordable housing.
- **Distinguished Service Award for Dedication to Affordable Housing in Africa**
[Sharon Trail](#) – This award honours Miss Trail’s foundational role and lasting contributions to AUHF as a founding member and former Secretary. Her 30-year commitment has made an enduring impact on affordable housing and AUHF’s legacy.
- **PanAfrican Development Bank Leadership Award**
[Shelter Afrique Development Bank](#) – Recognised for its leadership in housing finance, Shelter Afrique has consistently advanced affordable housing initiatives through funding and policy advocacy, promoting sectoral growth across Africa.
- **Country Housing Program of the Year**
[Government of Kenya](#), *sponsored by Shelter Afrique Development Bank* – Kenya’s housing program has been a model of progress and ambition, driven by the government’s Affordable Housing Programme (AHP), which aims to deliver 500,000 affordable homes by 2027. Through public-private partnerships, developer incentives, and the [Kenya Mortgage Refinance Company \(KMRC\)](#), the program has expanded mortgage access and positioned Kenya as a leader in tackling Africa’s housing deficit.

AUHF Chairperson Kehinde Ogundimu commended the 2024 award recipients, saying, “Each winner has made an outstanding contribution to affordable housing in Africa, setting a standard of innovation and commitment. Their efforts inspire us all to continue advancing housing solutions that are inclusive, sustainable, and impactful.”

Contact

Thandiwe Dhlamini

AUHF Programme Manager

thandiwe@housingfinanceafrica.org

About the AUHF:

The African Union for Housing Finance (AUHF) is a member-based association of over 70 institutions involved in the mobilization of finance for housing across Africa. Celebrating 40 years of impact, AUHF continues to drive dialogue and action in housing finance policy and innovation throughout the continent.

For more information about the AUHF, its initiatives, and its members, please visit

<https://www.auhf.co.za/>