42nd ANNUAL CONFERENCE & AGM
AFRICAN UNION FOR HOUSING FINANCE

#AUHF2026
LUSAKA, ZAMBIA

INTRODUCING

AUHF CAPITAL SPRINT

MEET THE FIVE INNOVATORS TAKING THE STAGE

Five pitches. Seven minutes each. One opportunity to showcase solutions that could transform housing in Africa.



Easy housing solutions
Niels van den Berge

Labella Casa Group
Belinda Aapies

Nubika
Judite Ferreira

ONSITE ICF
Kennedy Munyendo

Hodhi Inc.
Mao Mukuria

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JOIN US LIVE!

08:00 AM | 13 November 2026 | Radisson Blu Hotel, Lusaka – Big Dome

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Presented by Niels van den Berge

easyhousing

Easy housing solutions

Easy Housing scales sustainable, climate-resilient homes across Sub-Saharan Africa using a circular timber building system. Its construction technology integrates prefabrication, design automation and carbon storage to make quality housing affordable for low- and middle-income urban households.

Easy Building Concepts B.V. is the Dutch entity, responsible for research & development, and global marketing, and holding the technology and intellectual property. Easy Housing Uganda and Easy Housing Kenya are local design-and-build companies operating under licence. They pay a licence fee of 8% to the Dutch entity; the rest of the revenue stays in the country. There is currently one licensed operating company in each country.
Easy Housing reports that they are deliberate about gender inclusion throughout their value chain, from carpenter to manager. They actively train young people, including young graduates (architects and engineers) and young carpenters in timber construction. Noting that prefabricated timber construction is a new skill set in East Africa, they argue that they are building the labour pool that the sector will need as it shifts toward biobased building. Their impact on the overall housing sector ecosystem extends beyond the houses they build: the timber demand arising from this housing approach creates a market incentive for certified forestry in the region.

Backed by partners including Habitat for Humanity, the DOEN Foundation, the Affordable Housing Institute's Chrysalis Accelerator and MIT Solve, the company reports that as of October 2026, around 120 homes had been sold, of which around 95 had been completed and 25 were awaiting production.The company claims they receive about 100 new inbound enquiries a month across Kenya, Uganda, Ghana, Tanzania and Mozambique. Its recognition includes the 2024 Habitat for Humanity ShelterTech Prize, WEF UpLink Top Innovator 2023, the MIT Solve Prize and the 2025 Built by Nature Prize, as well as the AUHF Award for Green and Sustainable Affordable Housing Development in 2023, and the Sustainability Award, National Property Awards Uganda, in 2025.

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labellacasa
Our expertise. Infinite possibilities.

Bella Casa Group, trading as La Bella Casa, is a South African housing development company established in 2007. It aims to improve living conditions in informal settlements across Africa by delivering secure, sustainable and affordable homes, using new construction methods, partnerships and accessible finance to help families move into formal housing.

Labella Casa Group

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UN TOIT UN METIER UN MARCHE
La Voûte Nubienne

Nubika

Nubika is the commercial financing subsidiary of Groupe Voûte Nubienne (GVN), which has spent more than 25 years building a market for low-carbon earth housing in West Africa. The Nubian vault technique was adapted to Sahelian conditions by a Burkinabè farmer and a French mason in 1998–2000, and the Association la Voûte Nubienne (AVN) was founded in 2000. Solutions Voûte Nubienne (SVN) is the group's engineering and tailor-made design firm, based in Côte d'Ivoire. In 2026 the group was formalised as three entities: AVN, which trains masons, sets technical standards and runs the market-building programme; SVN; and Nubika.

GVN reports more than 8,500 vaults built, around 4,500 masons trained and more than 65,000 people living or working in Nubian vault buildings. The programme received the World Habitat Award in 2016–17 and the Le Monde Cities urban innovation grand prize in 2020.

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ONSITE ICF

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Onsite ICF is a social enterprise whose aim is “putting good housing within reach” through affordable, sustainable and climate-resilient construction. It manufactures Insulated Concrete Form (ICF) building blocks and provides design, engineering and turnkey construction for low- and middle-income households, developers, institutions and communities. The group is led by its founder and CEO, Steve Ross, from Pittsburgh in the United States, is a Certified B Corporation, and also works in Latin America. In Kenya it trades as Onsite Building Systems Ltd, managed since 2022 by Kennedy Munyendo, who is now Regional Director for East Africa; it has recently opened operations in Uganda.

Onsite ICF reports that it has delivered more than 250 homes and 52 classrooms. It has signed a memorandum of understanding with BASF East Africa to use BASF’s rigid polyurethane foam in its blocks and to train local businesses to make blocks themselves, starting in Kenya’s lake region.

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Hodhi Inc.

Hodhi Inc. is a Kenyan property-fintech company established in August 2023 and based in Nairobi. Its flagship product, AKRE — Affordable Key to Real Estate — is designed to make real estate-backed wealth creation accessible to everyday Kenyans. The company uses technology, property partnerships, trustees, brokers and regulated market infrastructure to deliver a transparent, scalable real estate-backed savings and credit solution.

Hodhi targets renters, informal-sector earners, young professionals and everyday investors who are excluded from traditional property ownership and formal finance. This domestic capital is mobilised to purchase much-needed affordable rental homes in urban areas. Its offtake model gives developers a clearer route to market, helping impact investors, DFIs and housing financiers fund construction with greater confidence, supported by DFIs, UN-Habitat, regulators and housing ministries.

The company holds a NIFCA Category B licence and has been accepted into the Nairobi Securities Exchange Ibuka programme. It is co-founded by Mao Mukuria.