

15th AREA Conference 2026 — Cities Series

Conference Programme · Kampala 3–4 Nov · Jinja 2–4 Dec 2026

Kampala · Day One

Tuesday, 3 November 2026 — Méstil Hotel, Kampala (Phase I)

08:30 – 09:30 Registration and networking

Arrival, accreditation, exhibition and City Partner pavilions open.

09:30 – 11:00 Opening ceremony

National anthem; welcome address by the President of AREA Uganda; keynote address; address by the Guest of Honour and official opening.

11:00 – 11:30 Tea break

Exhibition and networking.

11:30 – 13:00 Session 1 — National Real Estate Policy Dialogue

Urban growth management; land governance reform; housing policy implementation; municipal financing; the sector-coordination gap.

13:00 – 14:00 Lunch

Networking.

14:00 – 15:30 Session 2 — Blended Finance for Urban Development

PPP models; infrastructure financing; institutional and cooperative housing capital; de-risking instruments; the Financing Readiness panel on bank due diligence and settlement infrastructure.

15:30 – 16:00 Tea break

Exhibition and networking.

16:00 – 17:30 Session 3 — Smart Cities and Urban Innovation

Artificial intelligence in city management; GIS and planning; digital land administration; data-driven cities.

18:30 – 20:30 Networking reception

Sponsor-hosted; City Partner pavilions open; curated introductions.

Kampala · Day Two

Wednesday, 4 November 2026 — Méstil Hotel, Kampala (Phase I)

08:30 – 09:00 Arrival and networking

Exhibition open.

09:00 – 10:30 Session 4 — Evidence-Based Research for Cities

Urban data systems; housing market intelligence; research partnerships; city competitiveness.

10:30 – 11:00 Tea break

Exhibition and networking.

11:00 – 12:30 Session 5 — ESG, Green Building and Climate Resilience

Climate-resilient construction; sustainable infrastructure; ESG reporting standards.

12:30 – 14:00 Lunch

Networking.

14:00 – 15:30 Session 6 — Tourism Infrastructure and Hospitality Real Estate

Tourism as an urban catalyst; hospitality investment models; waterfront development; cultural heritage.

15:30 – 16:00 Tea break

Exhibition and networking.

16:00 – 17:15 Media launch — Uganda Cities Investment Prospectus

Official launch of the Prospectus and the Secondary Cities Investment Report; City Partner showcases; documentary premiere.

17:15 – 18:00 Closing and handover to the Investment Window

Summit communiqué; project submission briefing; Deal Room qualification criteria. Delegates may submit a project into screening at no additional charge.

Jinja · Deal Room · Day One

Wednesday, 2 December 2026 — Jinja · by invitation and qualification only, capped at 120 (Phase II)

09:00 – 10:30 Official opening

Deal Room rules of engagement; pipeline overview.

10:30 – 13:00 Tourism Investment Forum

Tourism infrastructure, waterfront development, hospitality investment and cultural heritage.

14:00 – 16:00 Leadership dialogue

Local governments, cultural institutions, investors and developers.

16:00 – 17:30 City showcase

Jinja and City Partner project presentations.

18:30 – 21:00 Gala dinner

Category sponsorship.

Jinja · Deal Room · Day Two

Thursday, 3 December 2026 — Jinja and surrounding project sites (Phase II)

08:00 – 13:00 Site visit programme

Source of the Nile; Jinja waterfront; industrial parks; housing development sites; tourism corridors. Every outdoor element carries a costed indoor alternative; security, a medical presence and a named site marshal accompany each visit.

14:00 – 17:30 Investment roundtables

Sector-specific and chaired, with screened project sponsors. Scheduled indoors so weather disruption shortens rather than cancels the day.

Jinja · Deal Room · Day Three

Friday, 4 December 2026 — Jinja (Phase II)

09:00 – 12:30 Deal Day

Scheduled bilateral meetings; project pitching; MoU signings; settlement-channel confirmation per signing.

14:00 – 16:00 Closing ceremony

Communiqué; pipeline report; awards and recognition.

Strategic Investment Window

Friday 6 – Tuesday 24 November 2026 — Virtual and in person

Independent six-gate screening, mandatory land title verification, investor matchmaking and Deal Room pack production for up to 50 projects.

6 – 10 Nov Submission triage and eligibility gate; first settlement-channel briefing — Eligible set confirmed

6 – 20 Nov Independent land title searches and legal opinions, on a rolling basis — Title status per project

9 – 20 Nov Financial, permitting and delivery review — Gates 3 to 5 determined

10 – 21 Nov Curated investor matchmaking — Matched shortlists

12 – 24 Nov Pipeline documentation and pack production — Deal Room packs

10, 16, 20 Nov Three sector webinars — Investor warm-up

By 24 Nov Screened register closed; Deal Room invitations issued — Final pipeline