

Africa Logistics Properties tackles East African supply chain challenges

Africa Logistics Properties recently hosted a Supply Chain Networking Breakfast Forum in celebration of its second anniversary since the completion of phase one - ALP North at Tatu City's Industrial Park. The event brought together key stakeholders in the logistics and supply chain sector with the aim of generating industry solutions.



From left to right: Maruza Chikwanha- Development Director Africa Logistics Properties, Richard Hough, CEO Africa Logistics Properties; Tariq Arain, Sub Regional Development Manager, EA, Kuehne + Nagel; James Rusty Eason, Global Technical Adviser, Global Cold Chain Alliance; Joseph Kariuki, Head of Transport - Freight Forwarders Solutions and Tim Steel, CEO Copia.

Speaking at the event, Africa Logistics Properties, CEO Richard Hough said: "Since setting up operations in Kenya, we as an organisation have noticed various challenges in East Africa's supply chain ecosystem. We are delighted to have our first supply chain breakfast event as a way of creating dialogue to solve some of the key challenges many business's experience within the supply chain ecosystem as well as align key international best practices that are relevant and can be applicable to the East African Region."

He further added: "With ALP logistics centres we are able to provide a key part of the solution and improve distribution in Kenya by streamlining the supply chain and logistics processes. Through eliminating shipping and transportation challenges, establishing better ways of storing goods and the effective use of technology."

Africa Logistics Properties's flagship project 'ALP Nairobi North' is Kenya's first international standard grade-A logistics and distribution centre. The project consists of 47,000sqm of grade-A international standard warehousing on a 22-acre site. The first two phases of the ALP North park are over 82% leased and the third final phase of 19,600sqm was delivered in May 2019.

ALP Nairobi North won the Best Industrial Project in Africa award at the 2018 Africa Property Awards and also achieved the World Bank's EDGE building sustainability certification – the very first industrial warehousing complex to achieve this benchmark in Africa.

The African opportunity

In addition to ALP Nairobi North, ALP has also commenced construction of its second logistics and industrial project called ALP Nairobi West on a 49-acre site in Western Nairobi.

ALP West is situated on the A104 highway towards Limuru, with planning approval for a 100,000 sqm logistics and distribution warehousing complex, the largest in East Africa. This second project aims to attract smaller more modern warehouse units, similar units at ALP North and specialised built to suit options for businesses seeking to move away from traditional land ownership to focus on their core businesses.

According to Hough, ALP's strategy is to identify demand-led investment opportunities within Africa that will generate strong returns for its shareholders through the development of industrial real estate projects whilst improving logistics and infrastructure in the markets in which it operates.

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