



# 2022 Nairobi Pipeline Report

A summary of pipeline projects in multiple real estate sectors within Nairobi.

September 2022





## **Table of Contents**

#### Introduction

Kenya's Economic Factsheet

Nairobi Pipeline Summary

Sector Analysis

- Office
- Residential
- Hospitality
- Retail
- Industrial

2022 Topical Issues

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## Introduction

Welcome to the inaugural edition of the Nairobi Development Pipeline Report!

Over the past decade, Nairobi's development pipeline has been through multiple cycles. First came the commercial offices boom at the start of the decade, then the retail boom halfway through this period and now, the niche sectors' boom currently being witnessed in the market.

While these development cycles were initially being underpinned by the entry of global capital in emerging markets, Nairobi's rising demographics have largely made the case for the shift in focus to alternative sectors focused around the themes of flexibility, accessibility and affordability. As such, niche sectors such as flexible office spaces, neighbourhood shopping malls (plazas and supermarkets), purpose built warehousing and affordable housing are emerging as clear winners in terms of development focus.

Overall, while Nairobi has seen a relative return to bullish development activity, especially in new sectors of interest, election related uncertainty,currency devaluation as well as rising inflation rates have impacted on general transaction activity especially in the office, retail and residential sectors. Therefore, our outlook on the city's market performance remains varied with sectors such as industrial and data centers posing a positive outlook, while office and retail are likely to remain subdued. As indicated in our previous reports, in reviewing African real estate markets, we enjoy taking a city approach because of the peculiarity of individual markets. In this flagship Pipeline Report, we carefully walk you through what we do best, profiling ongoing projects and subsequently revealing the figures and top projects behind Nairobi's exciting pipeline. Sectors covered in the report include Retail, Office, Residential, Industrial, and Hospitality as well as a special Data Centres focus.

We hope you find the report insightful. Please digest and let our team know what you think directly via research@estateintel.com. All feedback (including corrections) is welcome. You can also reach out if you are interested in an extensive list of the projects and their details in a PDF report or spreadsheet format.

Tilda Mwai

Research Lead, Estate Intel



## **Kenya's Economic Factsheet**





Source: Central Bank of Kenya, IMF, Trading, Economics, World Bank



#### **TOTAL STOCK**

The cumulative size of all projects (including completed and uncompleted projects) in a specific real estate asset class within a defined geographic region.

#### **SUPPLY STATUS**

This depicts our opinion of the supply saturation level by analysing demand and supply parameters including total stock, vacancy rate, pipeline as a percentage of stock, and rental growth. Subsequently, markets are labeled as being in a state of Undersupply, Balanced, or Oversupply. See the definitions below:

#### UNDERSUPPLY ත්

Demand outstrips supply and more occupiers seek to rent or acquire property than there are available units, presenting an opportunity for investors.

#### BALANCED බි්

In the context of the supply, we refer to markets as balanced at the point where supply begins to outweigh demand. Beyond this point, rents and occupancy start to drop.

#### OVERSUPPLY කි

Supply outstrips demand and occupiers seeking to rent or buy a property are less than the available units, presenting a risk for investors.

#### **PIPELINE STOCK**

The cumulative size of all projects that are yet to be completed (including projects that are under construction, at conceptual stages, under implementation, etc) in a specific real estate asset class within a defined geographic region.

#### **Construction Status**



#### Footnote

For the residential sector, the stock is measured as the total number of housing units, while the measure for office, retail and industrial is in square metres. The hospitality sector is measured by the number of hotel keys while data centers is measured by the size of white space(area dedicated to IT equipment and infrastructure) as well as additional MW supplied.

## Nairobi Pipeline Summary



#### Overview

We analysed pipeline projects within the residential, retail, office, hospitality, and industrial sectors within Nairobi. The data points to an undersupply in industrial and the affordable housing segment of the residential sector, while others such as office and retail are facing an oversupply.

Interestingly, the retail development pipeline seems to have dried up, with only 4.6% of total stock under construction, in the market. This presents an optimistic outlook in subsequent years with upcoming demand expected to balance out with existing supply creating room for more developments especially for neighbourhood malls.

On the other hand, the residential sector recorded the largest pipeline underpinned by private and public affordable housing developments pointing to the growing interest by developers to meet the demand deficit estimated at 200,000 units per annum. The data centers market too is poised for growth. Currently, Nairobi only has approximately 9 data centers against an estimated deficit of 28 3MW data centers (Tellimer insights) pointing to an exciting opportunity for data center operators.

Total Pipeline: Total Pipeline:			
	Total Pipeline:	Total Pipeline:	Total Pipeline:
2,452,385 sqft 22% of Total Stock 1,868,174 sqft 11%	of Total Stock 2,600 keys 21% of Total Stock	1,065,627 sqft 15% of Total Stock	160,000+ Units
Supply Status: Supply Status:	Supply Status:	Supply Status:	Supply Status:
OVERSUPPLY 🛍 UNDERSUPPLY 🛍	OVERSUPPLY 🕍	OVERSUPPLY 🛍	

#### TOP PIPELINE PROJECTS BY SECTOR

Trade & Development Bank	ALP West-Kariba	JW Marriott	Pangani Affordable Housing Development
Location: Kilimani Developer: Trade & Development Bank Size Completion Date c. 215,278 sqft Q3:2022	Location: Limuru Developer: African Logistics Properties Size Completion Date 129,167 sqft Q2:2023	Location: Westlands Developer: AVIC International Holding Corporation Size Completion Date 365 keys Q4:2022	Location: Pangani Developer: Tecnofin Kenya Limited & Urban Housing Renewal Development Size Completion Date 1,526 Units Q1:2023

## **Residential, Industrial and Hospitality Pipeline Map**





## **Office & Retail Pipeline Map**





## Office

### Office Pipeline Dashboard

### Top Office Pipeline Map

The Riverside Cube Global Trade Centre Trade and Development Bank Riverside Square Montave Tower Purple Tower The Piano 761 Lenana Road G47 Ugatuzi Tower Curzon Offices

Featured Pipeline Project

Trade & Development Bank



## **Office Pipeline Dashboard**



#### Summary

The Nairobi office sector development pipeline is estimated at c. 2,452,385 sqft in 2022. This accounts for approximately 20% of total stock indicating an existing supply glut in the market .

In terms of market performance, takeup activity remains relatively low compared to 2021 due to rising inflation and election related uncertainty that resulted in a 'wait and see' attitude by occupiers.

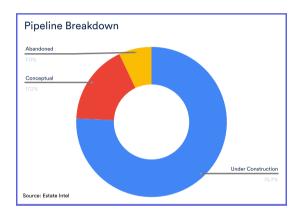
However, Grade A offices continue to reflect relatively lower vacancy levels estimated at 20%. This has been underpinned by the flight to quality trend that has continued to drive occupier preferences for grade A offices, with major occupiers especially multinationals opting to take up space in this segment.

Generally, the market remains largely tenant driven with key markets such as Kilimani and Westlands recording little to no growth in rents estimated at -0.4% and 0.5% respectively over the past 5 years. This trend is expected to play out for the rest of the year as the supply glut continues to impact on the market.

Overall, some of the major completions expected/seen in 2022 include;

- 1. Trade and Development Bank Tower
- 2. GTC Towers
- 3. The Riverside Cube





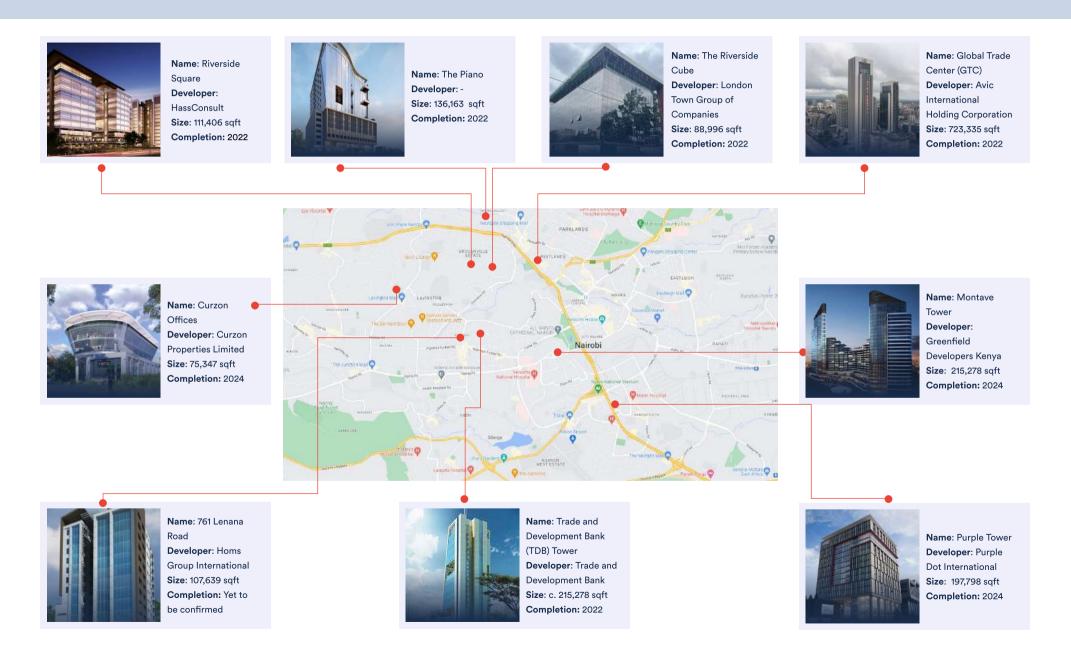


#### 2022's BIGGEST COMPLETIONS

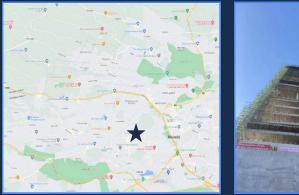


## **Office Pipeline Map**





## Trade & Development Bank Tower







RING COMPLET

## **Featured Office Pipeline Project**

Trade and Development Bank Tower is an office development located in Kilimani, Nairobi. Developed by Trade and Development Bank, the 20 storeyed office features approximately c. 215,278 sqft of space.

## **Project Team**

Developer:	Trade and Development Bank.
Main Contractor:	China Wu Yi Limited
Architect:	Planning Systems Services
Structural Engineer:	Civil Engineering Design (K) Limited
Quantity Surveyor:	Masterbill Integrated Projects Limited
Lift Contractor:	Schindler Limited

## **Specifications**

Full Address:	Lenana Road
Area:	Kilimani
Status:	Nearing Completion
Grade:	А
Commencement Date:	Q4:2014
Completion Date:	Q4:2022
Land Area:	1.052 acres
Gross Leasable Area:	c. 215,278 sqft
Number of Floors:	20



## Residential

## Residential Pipeline Dashboard Top Residential Pipeline Map

The Ridge Tsavo Skywalk Cascadia Apartments Alturah Upperhill 1870 West Residences Bandari Apartments Escada 88 Nairobi Jabavu Residence Enaki Town MiVida Garden City

### Featured Pipeline Project

Pangani Affordable Housing Development



## **Residential Pipeline Dashboard**



#### Summary

Nairobi's residential market has been in a state of constant undersupply as the population and demand continue to grow at a faster pace than housing delivery.

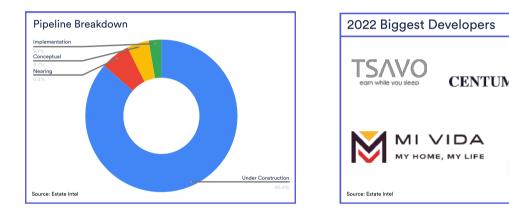
Most of this demand is within the lower to middle class segment, although, new supply has historically focused on the luxury segment. However, the past 3 years have been landmark years for development in the middle income space with the advent of the Government's drive towards affordable housing.

Based on the data we are tracking, there are over 160,000 units in the pipeline across the different classes of luxury to affordable housing projects.

The market is also seeing increased demand for shortlet apartments. Active rentals in Nairobi have grown two-fold between 2019 and 2022 to over 12,000 rentals. As a result, this is also emerging as an opportunity for some developers looking to debut the market

As such, based on our findings, the outlook for the market is positive, especially in the non-luxury segments.

#### 

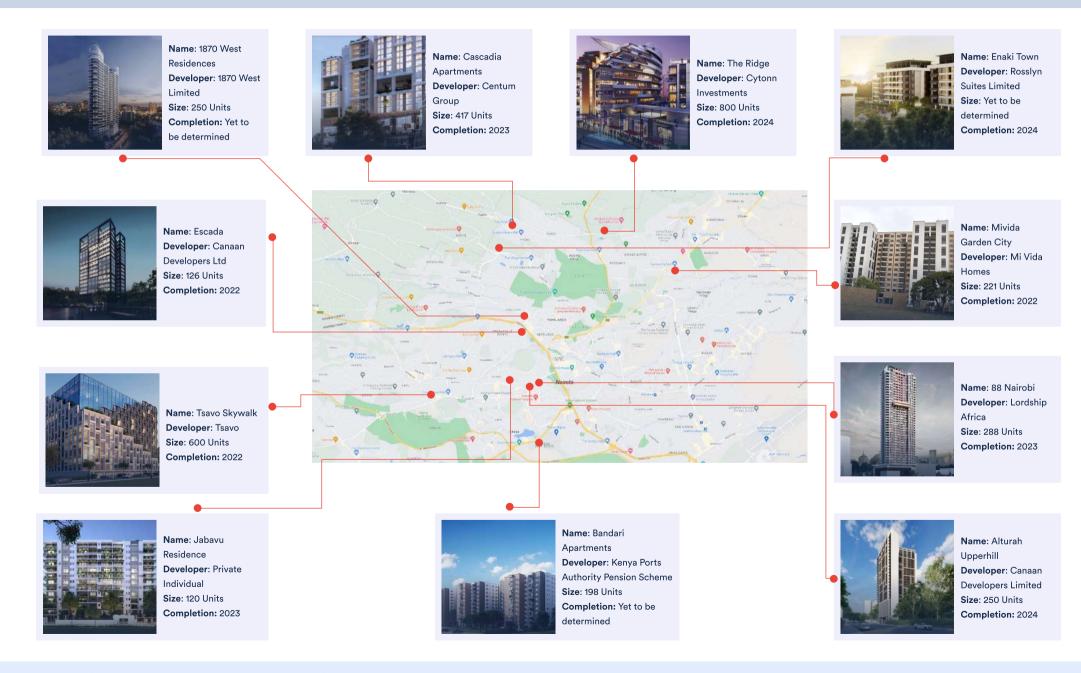


#### 2022's BIGGEST COMPLETIONS

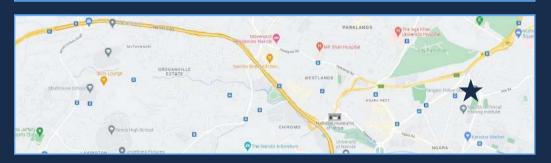


## **Residential Pipeline Map**





## Pangani Affordable Housing Development





## Featured Residential Pipeline Project

Pangani Affordable Housing Development is a residential development located along Ring road, and in the vicinity of Thika suiper highway. It is being built by Tecnofin (Kenya) Limited & Urban Housing Renewal Development Limited. The development is built to specifically cater to lower and middle income individuals.

## **Project Team**

Developer:	Tecnofin (Kenya) Limited & Urban Housing Renewa Development Limited
Main Contractor:	China Wu Yi Limited
Architect:	Planning Systems Services
Structural Engineer:	Civil Engineering Design (K) Limited
Quantity Surveyor:	CMAS Quantity Surveyors Limited
Services Engineer:	LDK Africa Limited

## **Specifications**

Full Address:	Ring Road Ngara
Area:	Pangani
Status:	Under Construction
Grade:	Affordable
Expected Completion Date:	Q1:2023
Number of Floors:	18
Number of Units:	1,526 Units



## Hospitality

## Hospitality Pipeline Dashboard

### Top Hospitality Pipeline Map

- JW Mariott
- MGallery Gigiri
- **Divine Residences**
- Somerset Rosslyn
- Kwetu Nairobi
- Hilton Nairobi (Stalled)

### Featured Pipeline Project

JW Mariott



## **Hospitality Pipeline Dashboard**



#### Summary

Nairobi's hospitality development pipeline is estimated at 2,600 keys in 2022. While this is a significant addition to the current stock, W Hospitality observed that this was a 30% decline in development compared to 3,733 keys recorded in 2021. Still, the new supply coupled with the existing stock estimated at over 12,000 keys, is expected to continue to negatively impact on room rates with occupancies remaining low at approximately 57% compared to pre-pandemic levels of approximately 64%.

GTC's Mariott International has been the key headliner in the sector, with the hotel set to be the first Mariott operated hotel in East Africa. Other notable completions expected in the market include Kwetu Hilton Nairobi and MGallery Gigiri.

Overall, the sector is expected to see renewed optimism based on the recent recovery in international arrivals that surged by 91% in the first half of 2022 recorded at 924,812 international visitors. Nairobi's position as a regional hub too means that the city remains well positioned for business travellers who accounted for approximately 28% of inbound arrivals recorded in H1 2022

As such, this renewed optimism in the sector means that our outlook for the sector is neutral despite the significant supply expected on to the market



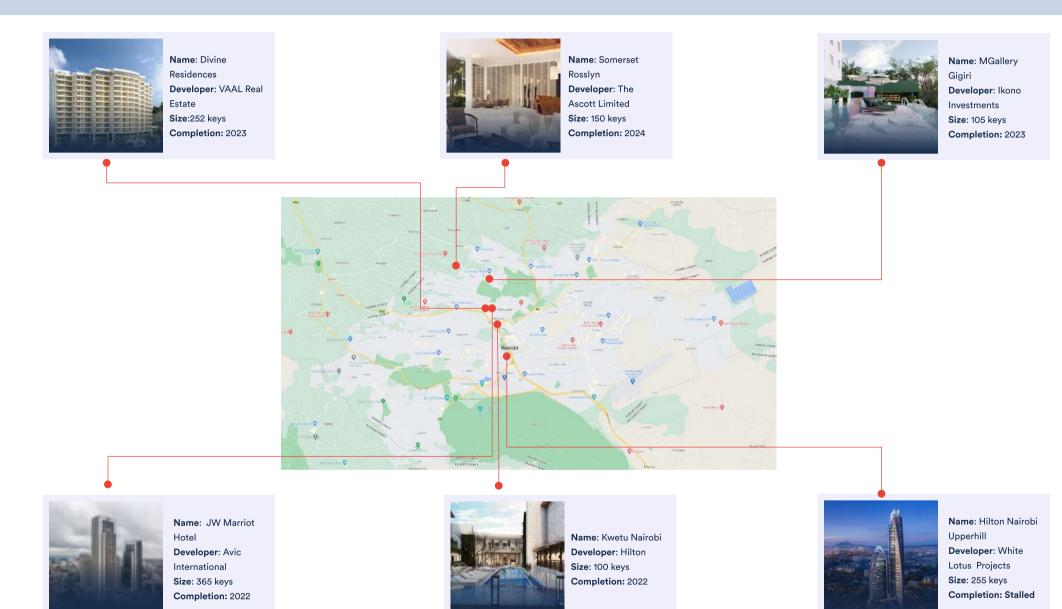
#### 2022's BIGGEST COMPLETIONS



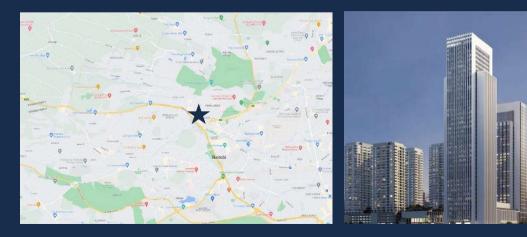
\*in the luxury segment.

## **Hospitality Pipeline Map**





## JW Mariott



## Featured Hospitality Pipeline Project

The upcoming JW Mariott hotel is set to be hosted in the Global Trade Center Towers, popularly known as GTC Towers. The development is a mixed use development located in Westlands, Nairobi. The development was designed to be an HOPSCA model (Hotel, Office, Parking, Shopping mall, Convenience, and Apartments).

## **Project Team**

Developer:	Avic International Holding Corporation
Architect:	Triad Architects
Main Contractor:	Zhejiang Chengjian Construction Limited
Structural Engineer:	Gibb Engineering
Quantity Surveyor:	Integrated YMR Partnership

## **Specifications**

Full Address:	Intersection of Waiyaki Way and Chiromo Lane
Area:	Westlands
Status:	Nearing Completion
Grade:	5 Star
Commencement Date:	2016
Completion Date:	2023
Number of Keys:	365 Days

## Retail

### **Retail Pipeline Dashboard**

### Top Retail Pipeline Map

Shujah Mall Global Trade Centre (GTC) Retail Comesa Mall The Beacon Mall Business Bay Square (BBS) Mall My Town Mall

### **Featured Pipeline Report**

**Business Bay Square Mall** 



## **Retail Pipeline Dashboard**



#### Summary

Currently representing 15% of total stock, Nairobi's retail pipeline remains limited with majority of the developments (64%) being on hold. This follows on the oversupply recorded between 2016 and 2018 that has seen total stock accumulate to approximately 6,921,194 sqft.

Interestingly, Nairobi continues to feature as one of the leading retail hubs across Sub Saharan Africa with a retail density estimated at 0.14, higher than most cities in Africa such as Lagos and Accra who have a recorded density of 0.018 and 0.06 respectively.

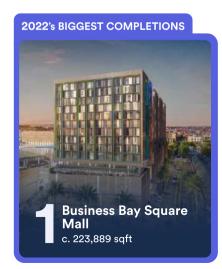
The market too has recorded continued global capital interest as evidenced by the recent investment of approximately \$52 million by Proparco and DEG(German Investment Corporation) into Naivas supermarket chains, one of Kenya's leading retailer.

However, with poor access to the crucial foreign exchange required for imports, a depreciating currency and increasingly unaffordable rents, the future looks gloomy for the sector.

On a more positive note, neighbourhood malls and convenience retail stores are emerging as a clear winner in Nairobi's retail market outlook. The emergence of retail bazaars has seen essential services such as groceries and pharmacies remain accessible to consumers.

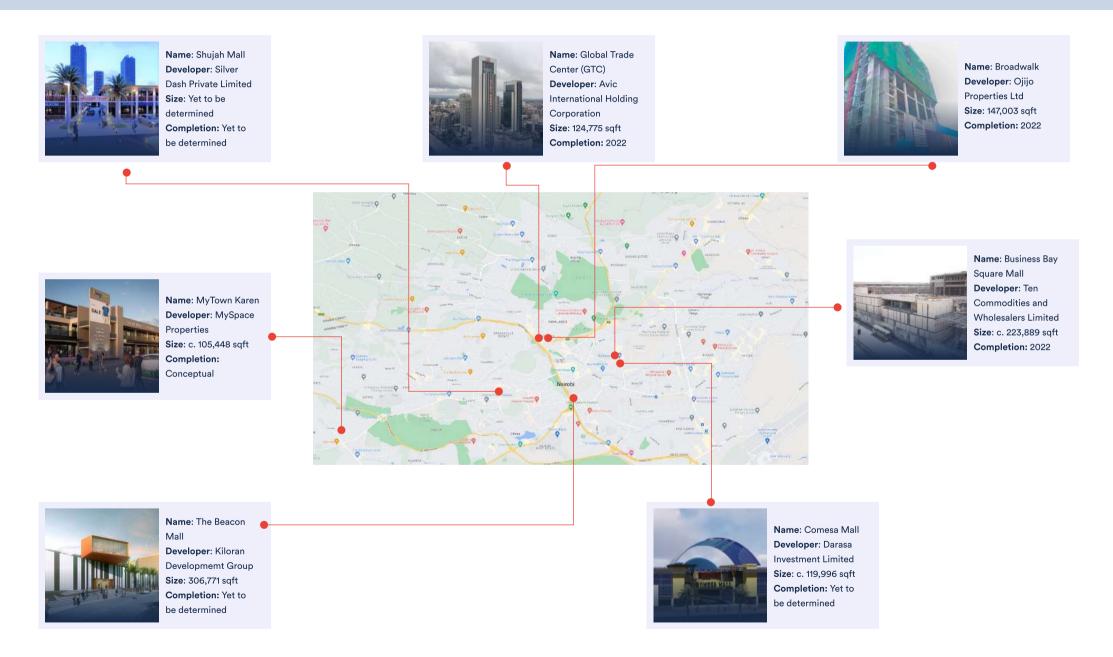
While these malls could essentially price out the more formal retail developments, they are unlikely to see any institutional capital interest due to the lack of scale associated with them.





## **Retail Pipeline Map**





## **Business Bay Square Mall**





## Featured Retail Pipeline Project

Business Bay Square Mall is a mixed use development located at the intersection between Timboroa Street and General Waruinge Street. The retail section, which is the first phase of the project is a 223,889 sqft building. Facilities which will be offered include: entertainment facilities, food court, ample parking spaces, event spaces amongst many others.

## **Project Team**

Developer:	Ten Commodities and Wholesalers Limited
Main Contractor:	CRJE (East Africa) Limited
Architect:	Maestro Limited
Structural Engineer:	Stroutel Africa
Project Manager	BML Limited

## **Specifications**

Full Address:	General Waruinge Street
Area:	Eastleigh
Status:	Under Construction
Grade:	В
Completion Date:	Q4:2022
Gross Leasable Area:	223,889 sqft
Number of Floors:	4

## Industrial

### Industrial Pipeline Dashbaoard

### Top industrial Pipeline Map

Infinity Industrial Park BSS Business Park ALP West Logistics Park Phase 3&4 Orbit Warehouses Nairobi Gate

### Featured Pipeline Project

ALP West Logistics Park Phase 3



## **Industrial Pipeline Dashboard**



#### Summary

The industrial sector continues to be one of Nairobi's leading real estate market sector. Developers' interest matched with occupiers' demand especially in the SMEs, agricultural and FMCG sectors means that there are unlimited opportunities in the market for investors.

With only 11% of the total stock estimated at 17 million sqft under development, the market remains largely undersupplied especially with regards to purpose built warehousing.

As such, investors are increasingly exploring the space with private equity or investor-operator type models. Quite notably, over 80% of the projects in the pipeline we are tracking are already under construction, while the others remain conceptual.

Key projects in the industrial pipeline include the Infinity Industrial Park, Nairobi Gate Phase 2, BSS Business Park and ALP West logistics Phase 3.

Overall, our outlook for the market is positive with increased infrastructure development coupled with a renewed focus in the government's manufacturing commitment, set to result in further development focus in the sector.



#### 2022's BIGGEST PIPELINE PROJECTS



## **Industrial Pipeline Map**







## **ALP West Phase 3**





## **Featured Industrial Pipeline Project**

Africa Logistics Park (ALP) West Phase 3 is the third phase of the development being built by Africa Logistics Properties. The project is named Kariba and located in Kiambu County. It has a Gross area of 129,000 sqft as well as facilities including; backup generator, solar provisions, independent water and power meters, amongst others.

## **Project Team**

Developer:	Africa Logistics Properties
Main Contractor:	Yet to be Confirmed
Project Manager:	Egyptian Engineering Group for Consultancy
Structural Engineer:	Yet to be Confirmed
Architect:	Egyptian Engineering Group for Consultancy

## **Specifications**

Full Address:	Ngecha Chunga Mali Road, Limuru,
Area:	Kiambu County, Kenya
Status:	Under Construction
Grade:	Grade A
Commencement Date:	Q3:2021
Completion Date:	Q4:2023
Size:	129,000 sqft
Clearance Height:	12 Meters

### **Topical Issues**



### A new era of government could positively impact the market

After a prolonged election period, the inauguration of Kenya's new president, hopefully means positive news for the real estate sector.

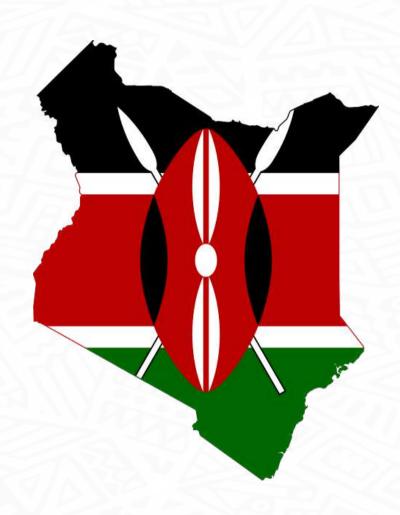
Generally, the real estate sector saw a relatively bullish return to market activity in the first quarter of the year. However, with rising inflation due to the Russia-Ukraine war and election related uncertainty, a general slowdown was observed in the market as occupiers opted for a 'wait and see' approach. Development activity also slowed down as a result of the currency fluctuation and increased cost of construction materials such as cement.

Following on the election, we expect varied performance across the market underpinned by a number of factors key among them being currency stabilization and lowering the cost of capital.

The Kenyan Shilling has continued to depreciate against the dollar over the past few months. On a positive note, this has resulted in a spike in demand for prime residences by foreign buyers. For example, a buyer looking to buy a USD 100,000 property in Kenya in September 2022 compared to a year ago will get approximately 9% in savings if bought in local currency.

However, this continued depreciation is likely to impact on market supply with developers putting on hold upcoming developments due to the increased cost of access to imports as well as potential challenges in the repatriation of profits in the unlikely event of dollar shortages. As such, the ability to stabilize the Kenyan currency and prevent further depreciation will be key in ensuring positive market performance.

Overall, if inflation doesn't spiral further and the currency stabilizes, real estate prices could continue to rise modestly with transaction volumes expected to pick up towards the end of the year.





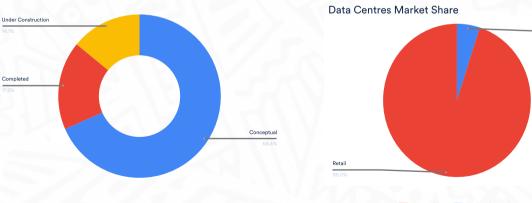
### Data is the 'new oil'

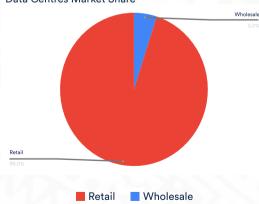
As Africa's 'Silicon Savannah', Nairobi has recorded an increased need for data centres. Coupled with the adoption of data localisation laws as well as a stable business environment, the city has seen data centre's supply increase to approximately 10 MW. Interestingly, over 80% of this stock has come up over the past 5 years, with the development pipeline looking even more promising at approximately 470% of total stock.

The city's status as a data centre hub has further been elevated by the debut of East Africa's largest hyperscale data centre developed by IX Africa. In addition, the market has seen regional and international data centre operators such as Paix, Africa Data Centres, iColo enter the market pointing to the booming nature of the Data Centres sector.

Total Stock	Total Pipeline	Market Status	Outlook
10.58 MW	49.8 MW	UNDERSUPPLY 6월	POSITIVE 📶
			Source: Estate Intel, DC
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#### Data Centers Market Dashboard





Source: Estate Intel, DC Byte

## IX Africa Data Centre

Nairob

abanas Bus Shin 🛱

CONSTRUCTION

KIAMBU COUNTY

#### research@estateintel.com | www.estateintel.com

iomais Of Kenya 🗿 🕲 Variot



IX Africa Data Centre is a hyperscale data centre located along Mombasa road in Nairobi. The project is being developed by IXAfrica and is set to be the first hyperscale data centre in Eastern Africa.

The development comprises three data centre buildings: a 4,314m<sup>2</sup> facility with two data halls and 4.5 MW of critical IT capacity; a 6,098m<sup>2</sup> facility with three data halls and 9 MW of capacity; and a 5,175m<sup>2</sup> facility with two data halls and a capacity of 5.4 MW. Upon full buildout of the planned data centres, the facility will deliver just under 19 MW of capacity across 3,564 racks divided throughout 6,621m<sup>2</sup> of white space.

## **Project Team**

Developer:	IX Africa
Quantity Surveyor:	Turner & Townsend
Architect:	Triad Architects

## **Specifications**

Area:	Mombasa Road
Status:	In Progress
Grade:	А
Completion Date:	Q4:2023
Total White Space :	6,621 m²
Number of Floors:	3

## We love your feedback!

Contact us on any of the emails below for any feedback, correction or project additions!

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## Get the Extended 2022 Nairobi Pipeline Report

W 1

Includes:

List of all projects Project team members Building specifications

#### FOR ENQUIRIES

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