



REPORT

World Architecture Day 2025 | Member Report Summary

Architects Association of Botswana (AAB)
Treehaus, Gaborone
6 October 2025

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President on behalf of Architects Association of
Botswana

2025
6 OCTOBER

PURPOSE OF THE EVENT

World Architecture Day 2025 celebrated heritage, culture, and architecture's role in shaping a resilient, affordable built environment. It brought together students, professionals, and partners under the global UIA theme.

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- Book Launch: "Traditional Tswana Housing" by Ms. Sithabile Mathe
- Keynote Speaker: Mr. Leta Mosienyane
- Panel Discussion: Moderated by Ms. Viola Tau
- MC: Ms. Priyanka Choudhary
- Panelists: Mr Bruce Kapele, Dr Seabo Morobolo, Mr Hillary Hugh Zebron, Dr Katlego Mwale, Mr Leago Sebina, Mr Bakang Malumbela
- Student Exhibition: Curated by UB architecture students
- Strategic Guests: Presidents of REIB and Pula Institute, Chair of Botswana Green Building Council
- Networking opportunities and dialogue on affordable housing and heritage

SUCCESSSES

- Elevated AAB's reputation as a thought leader
- Strong participation from stakeholders and students
- Event sparked dialogue on heritage and affordable housing
- Rich, multidisciplinary programme (panel, launch, exhibition)

KEY CHALLENGES

- Funding Shortfall: Limited sponsorship required leadership financial support
- Limited Reach: No livestream due to budget
- Overrunning Programme: Book launch exceeded time allocation
- Venue Constraints: Treehaus was intimate but congested
- Public Engagement: Greater media and client outreach needed
- Educational Inclusion: Extend representation beyond UB

FINANCE SNAPSHOT

The event ran on limited sponsorship. A full financial breakdown will be shared at the AGM. Budget overview and costs are appended to the original report.

RECOMMENDATIONS MOVING FORWARD

1. Plan earlier (3–4 months before events)
2. Form Events Sub-Committee with clear roles
3. Host capacity-building workshops (e.g., public speaking, event planning)
4. Hire professional MC/moderator for event flow
5. Choose larger or hybrid venues with livestreaming
6. Strengthen outreach (media, schools, exhibitions)
7. Include full post-event reporting (finance + feedback + media)

FOLLOW-UP INITIATIVES

Initiative	Purpose	Target Timeline
Public Speaking Workshop	Empower members	Q1 2026
Feature in SA Architecture Digest	Regional visibility	Ongoing
Tswana Housing Exhibition	Extend heritage conversation	2026
Housing Dialogue Series	Policy engagement	Q2-Q4 2026
AAB 30-Year Commemoration	Showcase AAB leadership	Nov 2025

FEEDBACK SUMMARY

- Overall Event Rating: 91% rated it "Good" to "Excellent"
- Keynote & Panels: Highly praised, room for moderator improvement
- Student Involvement: Strong curation, but more coordination needed
- Networking: Valued but needed more structured time

Suggested Improvements: Better livestreaming, bigger venues, more collaboration with regulators, practical topics, student awards

NEXT STEPS FOR AAB

1. Finalize and present full event budget
2. Implement follow-up workshops and exhibitions
3. Apply lessons to the 30-Year Commemoration
4. Engage an events planner or activate the events sub-committee
5. Expand student outreach and partner collaboration