

morphosis
design + architecture



“Hands-On Door Handle International Competition entry” organized by Colombo Design



“Isn’t architecture
supposed to be
visionary and
revolutionary? “

Visionary, in that, it can foresee the future
and therefore be able to direct it.

Revolutionary in that, it redefines man’s
existence and hence able to bring him back
to the realities of life.”

Yasir Brek; Architecture of the Sublime, 2001

MORPHOSIS is a multi-disciplinary architectural and interior design firm with a focus on the development of quality, authentic, contemporary African “Creative Spaces”. It is our desire that vitality and beauty of the built environment plays a crucial role in the creation of a productive and healthy community.

It is for this reason that MORPHOSIS’ philosophy is based on the concept of “the Creative Spirit”.

MORPHOSIS was created in 2005 when three creative individuals, Adnan, Mcharo and Brek decided it was time for a new discourse on architectural thought within the region. They believed that things had been done in the same manner for too long. They wanted to get some changes into the architecture and design arena.

design philosophy



the creative spirit

“create spaces and structures that exhibit
timeless qualities while remaining true to the
environment it sits in.”

Vision + Innovation

Our drive is fuelled by the desire to create public and private spaces that enrich the experience of their users and transform the home or workplace.

African Outlook

We are in a continuous search for what constitutes authentic and modern interpretations of our values as Africans.

Green Architecture + Our Commitment

Our designs are sensitive to issues of resource efficiency. We take into careful consideration materials, their effect on the environment, climate and long term effects. As a result, our goal is to have resilient architecture in Africa's skyline.



our values

At Morphosis, we put listening first. Each project and client is unique, hence our approach is client-focused with a commitment to design excellence. We endeavour to bring our experience and an openness to the dialogue so we can find effective solutions for each project.

MORPHOSIS uses an integrated multidisciplinary team-based approach to project delivery. In order to deliver the appropriate design and to ensure client satisfaction, we incorporate flexibility within a strong management structure. Our processes help the company to consistently and effectively deliver quality, cost-effective projects on time and within budget time and again.

our process + approach



Architecture

At MORPHOSIS, each project is a separate entity and a new challenge, where we let our imagination loose while retaining our original concepts.



The Boma Hotel

Nairobi

Inspired by the post election violence, this 5-star hotel was designed in 2008. Located 12 km from the airport, it consists of 150 rooms, a presidential suite, several lounge bars, restaurants and posh gardens.



hotels

Boma Inn

Eldoret

This 4-star hotel in the up-market Elgon View area of Eldoret abstracts the Rift Valley with its tensions, shears and water features. It easily stands out as the main hotel and architectural address in the North Rift.

Jacaranda Village Inn Hotel

Nairobi

Inspired by the weave, this development incorporates a well equipped comfortable hotel and conference facility with beautiful gardens, situated in the heart of Kiambu. The location avoids the hustle and bustle of the city, yet the charm and attractions of the city remain accessible.



Namlolwe Hotel

Kisumu

At the confluence of water and land, this natural beauty inspired the design of a hotel facility that responds to this ecologically delicate site inhabited by a large number of bird and tree species. Much consideration was taken to incorporate water features while preserving the natural environment. The facility also hosts a conference center and a 300 room hotel.

Bukavu Leisure Lodge

Congo

Located on the south-western shores of Lake Kivu, all the rooms in this 5-star luxury lodge have views to the lake with their roofs mimicking sails. All building materials are to be locally sourced.



Seven Islands Resort

Watamu

This development has combined a balance of traditional craft and modern design to produce architecture that is contextual to the area. The resort opens up to the ocean having all the rooms oriented eastwards. Local material, labour, building technology adopted & reinforced a sustainability agenda to ensure the thermal comfort and minimal carbon footprint.





DESIGN COMPETITION
WINNING ENTRY

offices

Kituo Cha Sheria

Nairobi

This 8 storey modern office block had to look small from the road so as not to intimidate the seekers of free legal aid while remaining top class to attract high-end tenants.

“Located on the confluence of two major roads in Nairobi, the FCB, is projected to be an iconic landmark building within the region. The concept was born out of a ‘mihrab’ (gateway) symbolizing an entry into a new architectural thought.



FCB Mihrab HQ

Nairobi

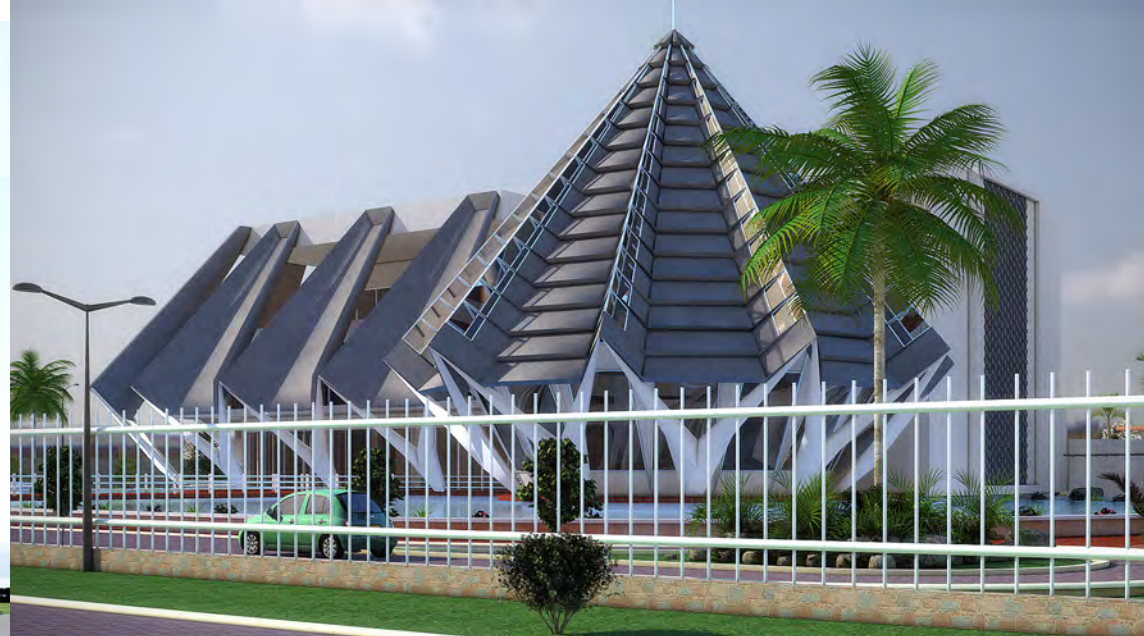
DESIGN COMPETITION
WINNING ENTRY



Kenya Women Holding

Nakuru

Representing the modern Kenyan woman, this building seeks to portray strength, presence and grace from afar and comfort, warmth and vanity from up close. It is as functional as it is expressive and will be the main office address in Nakuru once complete.



Bank of South Sudan

South Sudan

Based on the *Dinka's* love for cattle and traditional architecture, this concept was developed. It featured abstracted cattle horns drinking water and supporting the traditional modern roof.

DESIGN COMPETITION
ENTRY

Sheikh Khalifa High School

Mombasa

The scheme derives its concept from modern islamic architecture geared towards thought provocation, the environment and technology. It is inspired by the veil and is blank on the outside but well lit and ventilated on the inside.



Coast International University

Malindi

The project derives its concept from modern swahili architecture within the thoughts of cultural consideration as well as providing a space matching the youthful nature of the facility.

education centres



College of Insurance

Nairobi

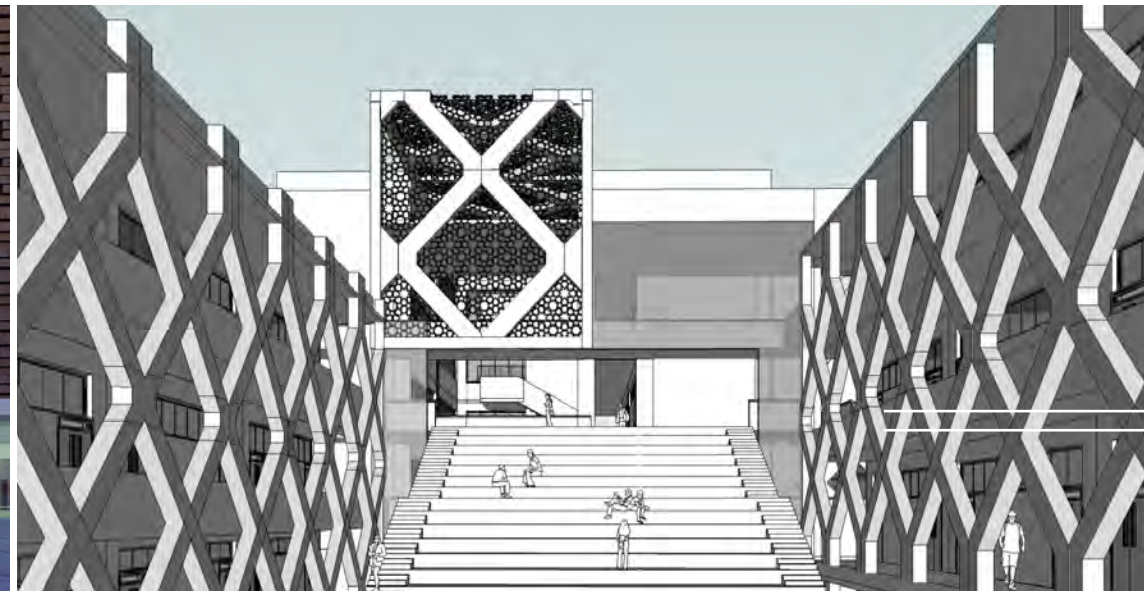


The concept of this project was based on fostering interaction through vertical spaces intersecting throughout the building creating visual experiences. Sustainable design was achieved through local material interplay and voids that allowed penetration of natural light and ventilation into the building

RAF International University

Kajiado

RIU is an upcoming Muslim University located in Isinya, Kajiado that aims to provide first class education in an environment influenced by Swahili/islamic design & culture fused with Maasai culture hence the form of architecture 'Maaslam'.



Located in various counties, these apartments boast a view and have amenities incorporated within. The design sought to embrace the surrounding while providing the serenity people seek.

apartments





Mazeras Kasbahs

Kilifi

This project is on 22.04 acres of land in mazeras township, 20km from Mombasa. This site is on a vantage slope overlooking the Mombasa outline. The spatial concept for the 2 & 3 bedroom apartments is a contemporary response befitting the genius loci of the site, the hot climate, adaptable modern living needs as well as the Swahili Culture.



Gulf Homes

Mombasa

Located in the upmarket Nyali area of Mombasa, this project has the environment, space planing, sea views and modernity as their main focus.

housing

Ngong View Villas

Nairobi



Karen Villas

Nairobi

This house of veils fuses traditional Islamic principles of privacy and separation with modern standards of light, openness and simplicity.



Kitambo Gardens

Nairobi

Home is a place where one feels at peace, finds rest. Kitambo Gardens is located in Karen, surrounded by numerous natural & planted trees. The main design is influenced by free spaces that flow into each other hence reducing the need for many walls. One space naturally turns into another. The more traditional exterior is contrasted by very modern interconnected interior spaces.

“By directing thought, does not mean one knows the answer, but actually knows what they are searching for.”

Faza Restoration

Lamu

When fire razed down Faza, a 50-acre island in the Lamu Archipelago in September 5, 2009 Morphosis was among the first teams to get to the ground to assess the damage and restore the town. We set to improve the island by mapping out all the buildings, doing a master plan and designs of houses, mosques, hospital theatre and other social amenities. The points of focus are environmental concerns, use of local materials and resources, rain water harvesting, fire protection, circulation, cultural and religious consideration.

csr projects



Daystar Mulandi Primary School

Athi River

The future is in the hands of the young generation. Morphosis set out to build a school with the conducive environment to spur creativity amongst the children.



Proposed Imtiaz Ali Mosque

Nairobi

One of the few mosques located within the CBD, we ventured to search for a modern interpretation of prayer yet strongly entrenched in tradition.





Design



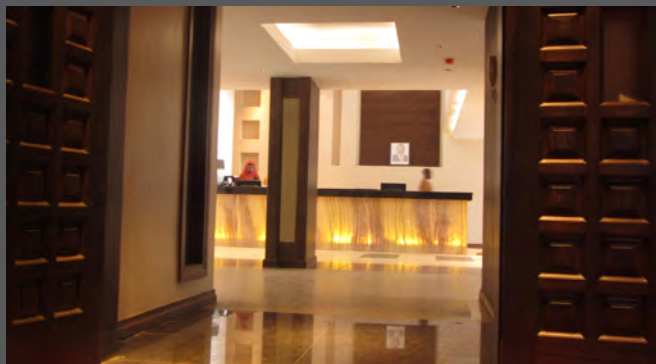
hotels



Proposed Interiors for Boma Hotel

Nairobi

The interior like the building, was inspired by the clash of the sea and the shore. Within the clash, beautiful landforms emerge and give life through the various colours observed at sea.



Boma Inn

Eldoret

The tension from the rift in the rift valley necessitated that the interiors be subtle and relaxed.

Proposed Interiors for Namlolwe Hotel

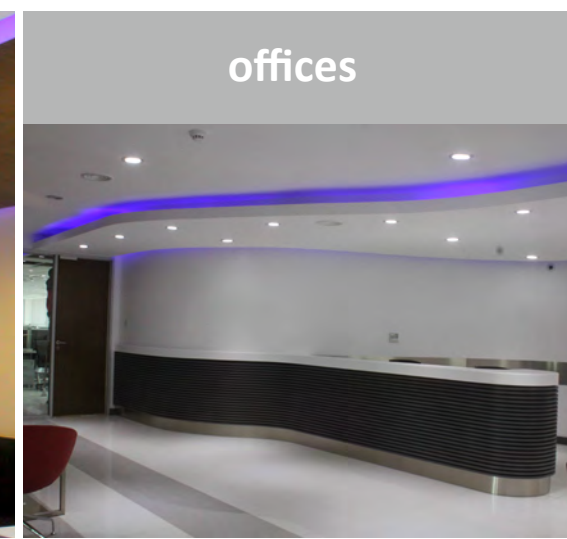
Kisumu

The local flora & fauna abundant around the site inspired the interiors of this development complete with reeds, water and various coloured birds.

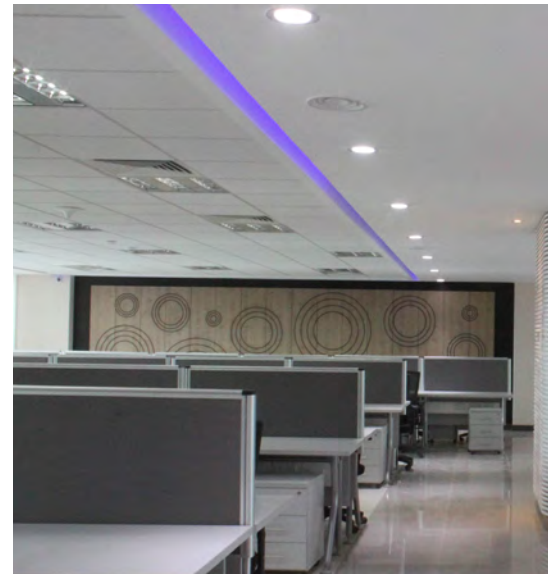
PWC Offices Delta Towers

Nairobi

These premier offices were an exciting challenge posed by the reputable firm PWC. Inspired by their logo colours we set upon defining their space with articulate planning. The offices were opened by His Excellency President Uhuru Kenyatta.



offices



Genghis Capital Delta Towers

Nairobi

Located on the 4th floor of the Delta Tower in Westlands, Genghis Capital was designed with 'light & airy' vision at the heart of the creation process. Light & elements through the space come together to create a borderline surreal experience while still remaining true to the vision, resulting in a fresh & contemporary work environment.

Gulf African Bank Nkrumah Branch

Various Locations

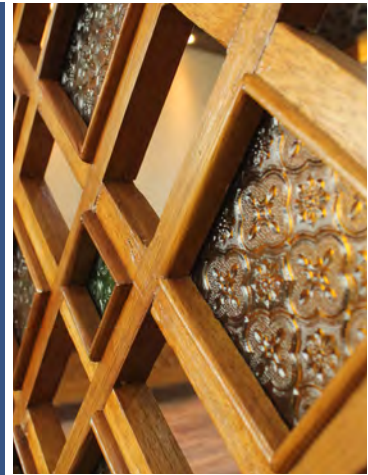
Gulf African Bank was voted as the best Islamic Bank in Kenya by IFN for the second time in 2014. We have done a number of branches with design specialization for Islamic Banking.



Chase Iman Head Office Chase Bank Branches

Various Locations

Morphosis has done a number of Chase Branches, with special focus on the Chase Iman Branches. This has proved to be a successful participation as we have continued to design with the Swahili and Islamic culture with the new direction in banking.





Proposed KQ Terminal 4 Lounges

Nairobi

This project came through as an exciting competition. We looked into our heritage and culture as Africa and as Kenyans, as we wanted the design to be as authentic as we participate in our search of our identity.



2007

ICDC Refurbishment- Nairobi
Gulf African Bank Branch- Mombasa
FCB Digo Road Branch- Mombasa
PwC Offices- Upper Hill, Nairobi
The Boma Hotel- Nairobi
Gulf African Bank Offices- Nairobi
Neo Homes- Nairobi
Sheikh Khalifa High School- Mombasa

2008

FCB Mihrab HQ Nbi
Kenya Women Holding Nakuru
South Sudan Central Bank

2009

Dancing Towers
Bukavu Leisure Lodge
Great Corner Apartments
Eqaar & Gulf Homes
Mazeras Kasbahs Housing Kilifi
Faza Restoration- Lamu
Daystar Mulandi Pri. School- Athi River

2010

Chase Bank Bondeni Branch- Mombasa
Jamia Centre
Kituo Cha Sheria
Taib Englishpoint Penthouses

2011

Nanganalopa-Syokimau
Toshea Residence
Nikaab-Ngong
Mji Tulivu- Shimoni
Coast International University
Chase Bank Malindi Branch- Mombasa
Chase Bank Nyali Branch- Mombasa
FCB Jamia- Nairobi

2012

Boma Inn Eldoret- Eldoret
Ngong View Villas-Ngong
Kitambo Gardens-Karen, Nairobi
Diamond Beach Resort-Watamu
Chase Bank Strathmore Branch-
Mombasa

Fayaz Restaurant- Mombasa
Wasanii Restaurant- Nairobi

PWC Offices Delta Towers- Nairobi
ADC Mara Luxury Camps- Maasai Mara
FSD Kenya Offices

Gulf African 9West Branch- Nairobi
Gulf African Bombolulu Branch- Nairobi

2013

Imtiaz Ali Mosque-Nairobi
RAF International University

Namlolwe Hotel-Kisumu
College of Insurance-South C Nairobi
Proposed KQ Terminal 4 Lounges
Kitisuru Apartments
Elgeyo Marakwet Apartments-Nairobi
Isuwiriyo Housing-Voi
Utawala Hotel
EastBrook Park APS Housing-Utawala
Jacaranda IOBR refurbishment-Diani
Chase IMAN HQ Delta Towers-Nairobi
Genghis Capital Offices- Nairobi
Jacaranda Hotel Village Hotel- Kiambu
Lifespring Chapel- Syokimau
Kakuzi Meadows- Thika
Great Corner Apartments- Nairobi
Naromoru holiday homes

2014

Jacaranda Town Houses-Lavington
Nyali Condominiums-Nyali
NBK Learning Academy
Karen Villas- Karen, Nairobi
Muthithi Villas- Kiambu
Eden Forest Housing- Ngong
Lower Kabete Housing
Chase Bank KPA Branch- Mombasa

PROJECT LIST



Adnan Mwakulomba graduated in 1995 from the University of Nairobi with a Bachelor's Degree in Architecture and later in 1998 with a Masters Degree in Design from the University of London. He is registered with the Board of Registration of Architects and Quantity Surveyors in Kenya and is a member of the Architectural Association of Kenya. Adnan is also a lecturer at the Department of Architecture and Building Science, University of Nairobi.



Leonard Mcharo graduated in 2001 from the University of Nairobi with a Bachelor's Degree in Architecture. He is registered with the Board of Registration of Architects and Quantity Surveyors in Kenya and is also a member of the Architectural Association of Kenya.



Yasir Brek graduated in 2001 from the University of Nairobi with a Bachelor's Degree in Architecture and later with a Masters Degree in Business Administration at the United States International University, Nairobi. He is registered with the Board of Registration of Architects and Quantity Surveyors in Kenya and is also a member of the Architectural Association of Kenya.

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