# AUAR secures £5.1 million to scale robotic timber micro-factories for fast, sustainable homebuilding



Automated Architecture (AUAR), a pioneering construction technology company, has successfully raised £5.1 million to further its mission of making sustainable and affordable housing a reality for all. This recent funding round aims to enhance AUAR’s innovative platform, which integrates automation and robotics with a decentralised approach to address the pressing issues plaguing the construction industry.

The traditional model of building homes has come under scrutiny for its inability to meet surging demands, especially in regions like the UK and Germany where the housing crisis is pronounced. Existing methods not only inflate costs but also delay project completion, making it crucial to explore new solutions. AUAR’s model promises significant reductions in construction costs—between 30% and 40%—and aims to alleviate bottlenecks throughout the building process.

Central to AUAR's approach is the use of timber construction, which can provide a sustainable alternative to conventional building materials. However, the potential of timber remains largely untapped due to outdated manufacturing processes. AUAR’s innovative system empowers mid-sized builders to scale timber housing effectively, allowing them to rent compact robotic Micro-Factories capable of completing the full timber structure of a home within just 12 hours. This process not only decreases on-site labour by up to 75% but also enhances overall efficiency.

The company's proprietary MasterBuilder software plays a vital role by seamlessly linking AI-driven design to robotic production, automating every stage from planning to fabrication. This holistic approach not only reduces costs and accelerates build times but also offers builders greater control, enabling them to maximise project outputs and respond adeptly to market demands.

Mollie Claypool, co-founder and CEO of AUAR, articulated the vision for a rapidly evolving construction ecosystem. "By enabling the industry to build together, powered by robotics and AI, we’re not just offering a new tool—we’re unlocking new possibilities for how homebuilders can grow, innovate, and deliver at scale," she noted. This encapsulates the broader ambition of AUAR to revolutionise homebuilding by integrating cutting-edge technology with practical solutions tailored to current industry challenges.

As part of the strategic trajectory, AUAR has delivered multiple projects in Belgium, engaged in the construction of over 300 homes, and initiated the groundbreaking “ConstrucThor”—a facility designed to explore the future of sustainable construction. By 2030, AUAR anticipates producing over 100,000 carbon-negative homes across diverse regions.

This latest funding round was spearheaded by European early-stage venture fund Planet A, accompanied by notable participation from Shadow Ventures, Common Magic, and Concrete VC. The influx of capital is anticipated to accelerate AUAR’s scaling efforts, allowing for the expansion of its partner ecosystem and operations in critical European markets, including Benelux, DACH, and the Nordics.

The focus on automation in the construction industry is seen as a transformative opportunity. According to Sam Baker, an investor at Planet A, AUAR distinguishes itself by embedding automation within the sector and offering scalable solutions that tackle the real-world constraints of margins, speed, and labour. This strategic positioning provides a blend of advanced technology and compelling economics that some believe could shape the future of construction.

In the face of ongoing housing shortages and rising costs, AUAR's pioneering use of robotic micro-factories exemplifies a forward-thinking approach to construction, merging sustainability with profitability. As it steps into its next phase of growth, the company’s efforts may well redefine not only the processes within the construction sector but also the very fabric of homebuilding itself.

### 📌 Reference Map:

* Paragraph 1 – [[1]](https://tech.eu/2025/06/04/construction-tech-startup-auar-raises-ps51m-to-expand-robotic-micro-factories/), [[4]](https://www.bdcnetwork.com/home/news/55252667/automated-architecture-uses-robotic-micro-factories-to-build-homes)
* Paragraph 2 – [[1]](https://tech.eu/2025/06/04/construction-tech-startup-auar-raises-ps51m-to-expand-robotic-micro-factories/), [[2]](https://www.ucl.ac.uk/bartlett/architecture/news/2024/apr/bartlett-associate-professors-startup-raises-ps26m-seed-funding), [[5]](https://www.pbctoday.co.uk/news/digital-construction-news/construction-technology-news/automated-architecture-robotic-micro-factories/138145/)
* Paragraph 3 – [[6]](https://www.roboticstomorrow.com/story/2024/09/auar-ships-robotic-micro-factories-to-the-us-to-build-sustainable-affordable-homes-across-the-midwest/23220/), [[7]](https://www.finsmes.com/2024/03/automated-architecture-raises-2-6m-in-seed-funding.html)
* Paragraph 4 – [[3]](https://auar.io/), [[7]](https://www.finsmes.com/2024/03/automated-architecture-raises-2-6m-in-seed-funding.html)
* Paragraph 5 – [[1]](https://tech.eu/2025/06/04/construction-tech-startup-auar-raises-ps51m-to-expand-robotic-micro-factories/), [[2]](https://www.ucl.ac.uk/bartlett/architecture/news/2024/apr/bartlett-associate-professors-startup-raises-ps26m-seed-funding), [[5]](https://www.pbctoday.co.uk/news/digital-construction-news/construction-technology-news/automated-architecture-robotic-micro-factories/138145/)
* Paragraph 6 – [[3]](https://auar.io/), [[4]](https://www.bdcnetwork.com/home/news/55252667/automated-architecture-uses-robotic-micro-factories-to-build-homes)
* Paragraph 7 – [[6]](https://www.roboticstomorrow.com/story/2024/09/auar-ships-robotic-micro-factories-to-the-us-to-build-sustainable-affordable-homes-across-the-midwest/23220/)
* Paragraph 8 – [[5]](https://www.pbctoday.co.uk/news/digital-construction-news/construction-technology-news/automated-architecture-robotic-micro-factories/138145/), [[6]](https://www.roboticstomorrow.com/story/2024/09/auar-ships-robotic-micro-factories-to-the-us-to-build-sustainable-affordable-homes-across-the-midwest/23220/)
* Paragraph 9 – [[1]](https://tech.eu/2025/06/04/construction-tech-startup-auar-raises-ps51m-to-expand-robotic-micro-factories/), [[2]](https://www.ucl.ac.uk/bartlett/architecture/news/2024/apr/bartlett-associate-professors-startup-raises-ps26m-seed-funding)

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## Bibliography

1. <https://tech.eu/2025/06/04/construction-tech-startup-auar-raises-ps51m-to-expand-robotic-micro-factories/> - Please view link - unable to able to access data
2. <https://www.ucl.ac.uk/bartlett/architecture/news/2024/apr/bartlett-associate-professors-startup-raises-ps26m-seed-funding> - In April 2024, Automated Architecture (AUAR), founded by Bartlett lecturers Mollie Claypool and Gilles Retsin, secured £2.6 million in seed funding. The investment, led by Miles Ahead and supported by Robotics & Automation Ventures, Rival Holdings, Morgan Stanley, and others, aims to expand AUAR's partner license network and operations in the US. AUAR's innovative approach combines robotics and algorithmic design to facilitate modular, sustainable, and robotically-manufactured homebuilding via distributed micro-factories, enabling local ecosystems to produce low-energy housing at scale.
3. <https://auar.io/> - Automated Architecture (AUAR) is building a global, automated construction ecosystem for sustainable, affordable, and beautiful homes at scale. Their solution offers a flexible, No CapEx 'hardware-as-a-service' model for pop-up Micro-Factories, enabling partners to quickly set up without large capital expenses. AUAR's AI-powered software supports partners from design to manufacturing, automating thousands of hours of inefficient, manual processes in the home building process. Each Micro-Factory can produce one timber home in less than 12 hours, resulting in a £2.5 million ROI opportunity per year per Micro-Factory.
4. <https://www.bdcnetwork.com/home/news/55252667/automated-architecture-uses-robotic-micro-factories-to-build-homes> - Automated Architecture (AUAR) employs robotic micro-factories to construct homes, aiming to revolutionize the building industry through its unique distributed robotic micro-factory network. Each micro-factory, delivered onsite in a standard shipping container, includes a fully assembled robot manufactured by ABB, capable of performing tasks like nailing, lifting, and customizing wood panels. AUAR's approach enhances health and safety by reducing the risk of injuries on construction sites, as robots handle dangerous tasks, creating a safer working environment. The company has expanded operations into the U.S., deploying micro-factories in Indiana to address the housing crisis.
5. <https://www.pbctoday.co.uk/news/digital-construction-news/construction-technology-news/automated-architecture-robotic-micro-factories/138145/> - Automated Architecture (AUAR) has secured £2.6 million in seed funding to build sustainable homes using robotic micro-factories. The investment will support the growth of AUAR's partner license network with ten more partners and expand operations in the U.S. AUAR licenses its low CapEx robotic micro-factories and tech stack to a network of existing home builders, enabling them to deliver low-energy, sustainable timber homes at the price of normal homes and at scale. The company aims to have 40 license partners by 2030, with a capacity to produce over 75,000 energy-efficient homes annually.
6. <https://www.roboticstomorrow.com/story/2024/09/auar-ships-robotic-micro-factories-to-the-us-to-build-sustainable-affordable-homes-across-the-midwest/23220/> - Automated Architecture (AUAR) has shipped robotic micro-factories to the U.S. to build sustainable, affordable homes across the Midwest. Each micro-factory can produce up to 180 homes annually and has a quick lead time of 12 weeks from order to shipping. Shipped in standard containers with pre-assembled components, they are ready for rapid installation at Rival Holdings' facilities. AUAR offers a flexible, No CapEx 'hardware-as-a-service' model for their pop-up Robotic Micro-Factories, allowing partners to quickly set up without large capital expenses. The company provides ongoing remote support through AI-powered software, automating design and manufacturing processes.
7. <https://www.finsmes.com/2024/03/automated-architecture-raises-2-6m-in-seed-funding.html> - Automated Architecture, a London-based tech company building a distributed micro-factory network, raised £2.6 million in seed funding. The round was led by Miles Ahead, with participation from Robotics & Discrete Automation and Robotics & Automation Ventures (ABB RA Ventures), Rival Holdings, Morgan Stanley, and others. The company intends to use the funds to support the growth of its partner license network with ten more partners and expand operations in the U.S. Founded in 2019 by Mollie Claypool and Gilles Retsin, Automated Architecture empowers local ecosystems to build better homes by licensing its low CapEx robotic micro-factories and tech stack to existing home builders.