

An aerial photograph showing a large industrial building with a grey roof covered in solar panels. The building is situated next to a multi-lane road with trees and other commercial buildings. A residential neighborhood is visible in the background. The solar panels are installed in rows across the flat roof surface.

Urban Growth is an independent property-investment company operating in South Africa. Its portfolio consists of completely off-grid, Grade-A industrial properties located in the Western Cape.

The aim is to generate a reliable, consistent, and growing income stream, coupled with capital growth, primarily through investments in South African real estate via debt instruments and a profit share backed by property assets, says group chief executive officer, Colin Young and director and co-founder Ross Gregory.

Urban Growth's strategic advantages

Urban Growth boasts a distinguished blue-chip background and a successful track record in the industrial property sector, he notes.

Its focus is on adding economic value to urbanisation growth in South Africa and beyond. The company specialises in large-scale supply chain logistics industrial property and collaborates with world-class property professionals to maximise the human and investment capital returns on its projects.

The Western Cape portfolio consists of distribution warehouses and last-mile logistics buildings, with a collective market value of more than half a billion rand. “The properties also boast energy-efficient features that support responsible and sustainable investing,” says Young.

To ensure consistent returns, the tenants of the properties are national and international businesses with strong financials and leases of at least five years.

Value of Western Cape location

Young highlights the strategic advantages, explaining, “The properties are off-grid, so there is no worry about load shedding and the carbon usage is low and, on top of this, it generates good cash flow.”

Gregory points out that, “South Africa, in general, offers good value in terms of property — both residential and industrial — but the Western Cape location adds enormously to the development's value.

“The supply chain industry is booming in the province and people are coming to the region from far and wide — both locally, through semigration, and globally. The influx of people means more infrastructure, more houses, more business, and you can rely on the support of the provincial government and a sound provincial economy.”

Further testament to the resilience of the portfolio is that all properties have undergone vetting by Investec Private Bank and Nedbank Private Wealth, the portfolio's principal banking partners.

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