



Government of Ireland  
Emigrant Support Programme

An Roinn Gnóthair Eachtracha agus Trádála  
Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade

“We’re looking for investors to develop a company to produce 10,000 homes in 10 years while greatly reducing carbon in the atmosphere”

IAN KEOGH  
IKEO Group



His back portfolio includes management of the redevelopment of Croke Park and the new Perth Stadium, but since returning to his native Dublin from Australia, Ian Keogh has his sights set on an even bigger project.

It’s his goal, as founder and Managing Director of IKEO Group, to build 10,000 homes in ten years that will also lower the amount of carbon in the atmosphere by 300,000 tonnes.

His company is planning to build modular, sustainable and customised homes using a highly-efficient precision engineering process including mass timber, which is like jumbo plywood, instead of traditional steel and concrete.

This will give clients a quicker, cheaper and more environmentally-conscious development solution as it transforms a labour intensive and messy process onsite to an advanced manufacturing process 90% completed in a factory. It also minimises vehicle trips and waste, while eliminating the greenhouse gases produced by steel or concrete structures.

“By 2040, 3bn more people on the planet will be living in cities and they will need new homes,” Ian says. “People will need new types of housing because we don’t have the luxury of space as before, but also our planet can’t sustain the materials and methods we are using now. We simply can’t afford to keep going the way we are. We are trying to do things differently and offer a much more efficient, innovative and sustainable solution.”

The advantages of precision engineered solid timber buildings can’t be denied. They maintain heat and, by being air tight, help significantly to lower energy costs, another benefit for the environment.

“Reinforced concrete accounts for 11.5% of annual greenhouse gas emissions worldwide and Ireland’s emissions associated with cement have climbed 79% since 2011, in line with the increase in development – we need to break this link,” Ian says. “Building apartments offsite would also reduce traffic in Dublin City by up to 90% because you don’t have micro deliveries of concrete, steel and formwork or trucks collecting waste.”

IKEO Group plans to include the production of engineered timber and using local supplies from certified forests, where trees used are replaced by replanting.

In April 2017, just nine months after its establishment, IKEO Group was involved in the planning of a six-storey mass timber structure project for Loughborough University in the UK, which housed 110 student residences.

It took just 14 weeks to build.

Ian, who lived in Perth for four years, says he moved home with this business idea in mind, hoping to leverage programmes like Back For Business and personal business contacts.

“Back For Business made me believe I could get things done here. They gave me the opportunity to develop my ideas and build the knowledge to make it my new business. To have people like that who know how to get things started and give you the time they have is huge.”

Ian and IKEO Group are currently seeking investors to help them achieve their goal of 10,000 homes in 10 years.



#### POSITION

Founder/Managing Director

#### WHAT WE DO

We are developing an advanced manufacturing and product design company to provide modern, efficient and sustainable urban modular accommodation solutions.

#### CONTACT US

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