

Design with solutions in mind

By Terry Levin

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Having grown up among awful architecture in South London, Cameron Sinclair started the non-profit 'Architects for Humanity' when he was 24 years old. Transitional housing for Kosovo's Returning Refugees, HIV clinics in Lagos Nigeria, which incorporate movie theatres, organic farms and encourage input from communities to ensure the most effective solutions.



A unique open source architectural model ensures anyone can collaborate and access project management tools for sustainable, replicable, adaptable and scalable design solutions to support their work.

Covering all the bases of humanitarianism, sustainability and energy efficiency in particular are the initiatives to rebuild the communities worst affected by Hurricane Katrina-hit Biloxi on the Gulf Coast last year.

Ongoing items on the agenda are for Tsunami Reconstruction, a Rural Center of Excellence in Tanzania which will be the first healthcare and tele centre in the world.

A hot topic worldwide is the Rethinking Unplanned Settlement project, as across the world about 200 000 people leave their ancestral homes in rural regions and move to cities every single day. One in seven worldwide live in this way and the UN estimates that by the year 2030, that number will grow to one in .

In the coming months Architecture for Humanity will be launching a competition that will aim to tackle some of these pressing issues, so expect to see results in our own back yards.

Sinclair's noble and impassioned aim is to give everyone of the billions of slum dwelling souls on earth a sustainable home so that we all have a shot at sustainable future.

Get informed at http://architectureforhumanity.org.

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