



*FX*  
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## Headliner

### THE A4A TEAM

If you've got a problem and no one else can help...

'Architects for Aid (A4A) is proud to be the first official charity of the FX Awards in November,' says A4A chairman Maxwell Hutchison, who founded the charity after witnessing the tsunami in 2004. 'Support from all your readers and guests is crucial for A4A to continue its vital work, so we are overjoyed that the FX Awards 2007 is committed to helping us raise funds.'

A4A's aims are to make adequate shelter a basic human right, enable sustainable building practices and provide building expertise to local charities, NGOs and community groups.

It is this last point that Vicky Harris, director of A4A, stresses: 'Often charities just hand over cash as an asset - we hand over skills, and our solutions are green and sustainable.'

A4A became a registered charity in January 2006, and it is currently involved in around 23 projects, either completed or going through feasibility studies. These range from the three-day, £1,000 construction of a hospital playground in Maseru, Africa, to a bridge on the Thailand/Burma border for under £10,000. A project currently undergoing a feasibility study is for a prosthetic limb clinic in Uganda. A4A is looking to recruit an architectural practice with healthcare experience for the project.

According to Nicky Wynne, head fundraiser, A4A has raised a total of £250,000 through various initiatives (for details, see the website). She invites you to call 020 7466 1220 to discuss any ideas. [www.architectsforaid.org](http://www.architectsforaid.org)



#### Industry comment

'The short journey across Shoreditch [London] I made to meet A4A has turned out to be one of the most important steps in the early history of Sentebale [an African charity patronised by Prince Harry]. As we have encountered issues with capital projects, their enthusiasm, speed, expertise and sheer willingness to help has been simply terrific.'

**GEOFFREY MATTHEWS**, COMMERCIAL DIRECTOR,  
THE PRINCE'S CHARITIES

'I was very pleased to be asked to become a trustee for A4A and I am very excited to continue. I believe that A4A is going to be one of the most significant charities in its field. Hopefully not just in the architectural profession but also within the wider spectrum.'

**JACK PRINGLE**, FORMER RIBA PRESIDENT

'Working with A4A made me more aware of the positive impact that architects could play in making lives a little bit better for people in need.'

**ASA AWAD OSMAN**,  
A4A VOLUNTEER