

Kesho Leo Children’s Home

Sinon Village  
Arusha, Tanzania

Architects	Robert Watson Melbourne, Australia
Clients	Food Water Shelter Melborne, Australia
Commission	2007
Design	2007 - 2008
Construction	2007 - 2009
Occupancy	2008
Site	9,196 m²
Ground floor	1,160 m²
Total floor	1,398 m²
Costs	199,342 USD

**Programme** Kesho Leo is a residence and community centre with education, social, and health facilities for women, orphaned children and the wider rural community of Sinon, just outside Arusha. With a small budget raised from donations and grants and a lack of skilled labour, the architect adopted low cost, simple building methods that could be easily followed by the local community. The three main buildings are linked by a covered walkway and are located against the southern boundary of the site in order to open up the maximum amount of land for agricultural use. The centre makes use of low tech passive cooling solutions and waste materials are recycled for use in the permaculture system on site.





