

Country profile

HONDURAS



Habitat for Humanity in Honduras

Habitat for Humanity started operations in Honduras in 1989 and received legal status in 1993. Its national office is in San Pedro Sula, and it has seven regional offices covering about 70 municipalities. For more information, go to <http://www.habitathn.org>

The need for housing in Honduras

Of Honduras' population of 8.7 million, 66.5 percent of families live in poverty. More than 46 percent live in extreme poverty, and half of the population lives in rural areas where poverty reaches 75 percent. Additionally, 13 percent of the households do not have access to water and sanitation, 16 percent of the households are overcrowded, and 50 percent of the households in the rural zone do not have electricity. The housing deficit reaches 1.1 million. Throughout the country, 750,000 houses require improvements, and over 400,000 families need a new home. For this population, gaining access to a decent home through commercial mechanisms is practically impossible. The poor are not considered a high-risk population, and therefore they are not eligible for assistance.

Habitat's contribution in Honduras

Habitat for Humanity Honduras has committed to help communities through the construction and improvement of housing, prioritizing the most vulnerable families.

COUNTRY FACTS

Capital	Tegucigalpa
Date of independence or creation of the state	Sept. 15, 1821
Population	8,725,000
Urbanization (percent-age of people in cities vs. rural zones)	46.7 percent
Life expectancy	73.4 years
Unemployment rate	3.9 percent
Percent of the population living below the poverty line	64.5 percent
<i>Source: (National Center for Statistics, INE, 2010)</i>	

HABITAT FACTS

Date when Habitat started working in the country

1989 (earned legal status in 1993)

Families served

20,000

Volunteers hosted

1,578 volunteers since July 2013 (1,201 national, 377 international)



Our Programs:

Construction

This program serves families in need of an adequate house, with two standard models of 36 square meters and 48 square meters. We also reach those families who need to improve or finish their home through minor additions such as wooden stoves, latrines, water filters, or wooden doors and windows, or through the installation of doors and windows with a metal or synthetic screen. Finally, Grupos Solidarios is a form of credit given to a group of three to five families interested in improving or expanding their homes.

Training

This project entails the integral training for families who are beginning the construction process with Habitat Honduras, using two modules: "Knowing Habitat" and "Financial Literacy."

Advocacy in public policies

This is a strategic project of Habitat Honduras intended to change legal and political frameworks — the systems, practices, programs and allocation of public resources. In some cases, this advocacy is aimed at private organizations. Habitat Honduras is also promoting housing policies in 100% of the country's municipalities that include budget allocation for social housing. Also, being part of the Red de Organizaciones Desarrolladoras de Vivienda Solidaria (REDVISOL), Habitat Honduras advocates for adequate housing policies in the central government.

Community development

This project allows us to promote transforming and sustainable community development, understood as a lasting change in the community, empowering the individuals, generating links, and promoting leadership and continuous work.

Meet a Habitat family

Dany Marbella Munguía Guifarro, 38, is a primary school teacher in Tocoa and the single mother of three children. Despite her profession, she could not gain access to housing credit through the conventional system; so she and her family rented a home for more than 15 years.

"It was very difficult in the past to get a credit in other places," Guifarro said. "Now Habitat is making my dream and my family's dream a reality: to be the owners of our house — the heritage for my children. This is the happiest day of our lives." Guifarro will live in one of the 12 houses of Project Canaan in the neighborhood of El Toronjal in Tocoa.

"I feel very happy and grateful with God," she said. "All the families that will live in the neighborhood of Canaan are blessed."

What you can do

You can help needy Honduran families who live in unhealthy, cold and overcrowded homes by taking one or more of the following actions:

DONATE

<http://habitathn.org/solidarizate>
<http://habitathn.org/solidarizate/donacion-internacional>

VOLUNTEER

Join one of the scheduled Global Village trips to Honduras or lead your own. For more information go to: habitathn.org/gv/catalog/lac

TITHE

Establish a strong and rewarding tithe partnership to help build houses globally! Quote 822100, Honduras HFH on your checks sent to: Habitat for Humanity International, Attn: Affiliate Tithe, 121 Habitat St., Americus, GA 31709



To learn more about Habitat projects in Honduras please contact us:

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