



Worksite Safety Policy

Everyone has a safety responsibility. If you think something is unsafe, it probably is. Don't wait for an accident to happen: if you have a concern, raise it with the Team Leader or the local site staff.

General Safety

- REPORT immediately any accident, near miss, or anything that could lead to an accident, to your Team Leader.
- USE the correct tool or equipment for the task you are carrying out. Visually check any tool or equipment before using it; never tamper with it and report any defects found to a member of the site staff. Volunteers will be instructed in the use of various site tools and equipment.
- WEAR PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT as per the H&S signage and requests from the Team Leader or Habitat for Humanity staff.
- DO NOT throw materials to each other to save time. Always work in a chain.
- DO NOT indulge in horseplay or cause distractions to anyone on the site.
- NO ALCOHOL OR DRUGS are permitted on site at any time. Volunteers who need prescribed drugs (inhalers, etc) should make sure they have a sufficient supply on site.
- TAKE REGULAR REST AND WATER BREAKS. Dehydration can be an issue in hot climates. E.g. when the temperature is over 35C you will probably need to drink at least 5 litres of water during the working day.
- IF YOU FEEL UNWELL at any time during the trip, please speak to your Team Leader.
- REMEMBER: you are in a new environment, be that your host country or a building site. Don't take things for granted – always be prepared to question – if it does not feel right, it probably isn't!

Training:

- Safety briefings are a vital part of the day. Every day will begin with a safety briefing that relates to the work about to be undertaken.
- Local builders will be on site with you – they will also be able to help in giving the necessary training prior to carrying out new tasks.
- General safety considerations will be reinforced at safety briefings and specific issues covered. All hazards or potential hazards will be identified and action should be taken to prevent accidents on site.
- Volunteers will be instructed in the use of various site tools and equipment.
- If you feel uncomfortable doing a task please talk to the Team Leader, who will arrange more training or a different task.
- You should receive training in appropriate lifting techniques. Please talk to your Team Leader if this training is not provided.