



An E-Newsletter from Europe and Central Asia

July - August, 2010

On July 4th, Habitat affiliates and partner families in the U.S. and in other regions celebrated American Independence Day. Many Americans mark this day by volunteering with Habitat on build sites throughout the world and helping low-income families realize a dream of a simple and decent home.

In the last fiscal year, ending in June 2010, Habitat in Europe and Central Asia welcomed 49 American teams. In the coming year, Habitat is happy to host even more teams and galvanize European volunteers to take the fight against poverty housing.

Join us in the efforts to fight homelessness and poverty housing!

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Europe and Central Asia: Builders of change

American volunteers bring enthusiasm and support to many families throughout the region and help them to realize their dream of a simple and decent home. Meet some of [the teams](#) that have represented the best of America's national ideals and built partnerships that break the cycle of poverty for local communities throughout Europe and Central Asia.



In Kyrgyzstan: Keep hope alive

Recent political instability disrupted normal life in Kyrgyzstan. Habitat for Humanity is trying to continue to work in the country amidst the crisis. Your help can keep hope of a decent and simple home alive for families who find themselves in a more difficult plight. Read more about the [situation](#) and support families in need in Kyrgyzstan.



Habitat World 2010 photo contest results

A team of Habitat judges named the winner and top four finalists in this year's reader contest. More than 350 people from around the world responded from February to April to the Habitat World call for photos representing the homebuilding organization's life-changing work. View the [winning photo](#), as well as three runner-ups.



In Mongolia: Celebrating the 10th anniversary of Habitat with a Blue Sky build
Habitat for Humanity Mongolia hosted a special one-week build in the capital Ulaanbaatar as part of its 10th anniversary celebrations. Visit the [special page](#) to see an account of the build and what results the teams managed to accomplish.

News in Brief

Video and essay contest for American volunteers

The Creative Learning group and its new project America's Unofficial Ambassadors announced its first annual video and essay contests, with prizes that include cash awards and publication. The contests run along the themes of the impact of service, representing America, and remarkable local partners. The deadline for entry is July 15. Please [click here](#) for full details.

Habitat videos

Check out our [video gallery](#) pages for new videos of Habitat work in Europe and Central Asia. The World of Hope video from Romania shows the housing need in the country and how Habitat for Humanity is addressing it. Another video shows Dimler volunteer build with Habitat for Humanity in Poland.

Habitat photos

[Faces and Places of Kyrgyzstan](#) - Check out the first photo gallery in a new series that will explore local cultures and Habitat projects in the countries throughout Europe and Central Asia.

Social media news

Download Habitat [web banners](#) to support its mission to fight poverty housing! Habitat is approaching 50,000 fan hits on its [Facebook page](#).

Get Involved with Habitat

The Global Village is a great opportunity to travel, learn about another country and make a difference in the global fight against poverty housing. Visit our [Global Village](#) section now! Organize a team of volunteers from among your friends, co-workers, school or other groups, or join one of our featured trips.

- Trip to Tajikistan: Building homes for families in Khujand from September 24 - October 8, 2010. If you want to sign up for the trip, check [this information](#).

Habitat for Humanity International is a Christian non-profit organization dedicated to the cause of eliminating poverty housing. Since its foundation in 1976, Habitat has built and renovated more than 350,000 houses worldwide, providing simple, decent and affordable shelter for 1.75 million people.

In Europe and Central Asia Habitat for Humanity International works in 20 countries, building and repairing houses, offering housing microfinance services, improving water and sanitation, working on disaster mitigation and response and advocating for affordable housing. In this region, Habitat has served more than 10,000 families together with volunteers and homeowners.

Find out more at www.habitateurope.org