

June 2011

Most of the people living in poverty are children. Poverty denies children the joy in life. It weakens their environment, as much abuse and exploitation of children is linked to widespread and deeply entrenched poverty. It blights their lives with ill health, malnutrition, and mental impairment.

Poverty is transmitted from one generation to the next. Impoverished, malnourished mothers, for example, often give birth to under-weight babies. These babies are more likely to die and, if they do survive, they are less likely to grow and fully develop. Chronic malnutrition and illness lead to poor school performance. As a result, children are more likely to drop out of school early and have low paid jobs, if they manage to find work at all.

This vicious circle can be broken if a child has a simple and decent home. Help build it!

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Homes for orphans in Romania

During the years of communism in Romania, orphans grew in number and orphanages became overcrowded after the 1966 decree made abortions illegal. Children in the state-run institutions lived a difficult life, got poor nutrition, inadequate clothing and bad education. Is there a way [to help](#) these people?



Connecting diverse agencies in an innovative housing project

Construction of 10 new homes at Miller Road in Banbury, which started last November, is expected to be completed by January 2012. [Read](#) how housing initiatives are used to provide simultaneous training and educational opportunities for the young.



Mulberry trees to reinforce homes in Tajikistan

Every year, Tajikistan, located in the Pamir range in Central Asia, experiences tremors and earthquakes, the magnitude of which can go as high as 7 or 9 on the Richter scale. A simple and affordable traditional [technology](#) helps families in this poorest Central Asian country to protect homes against natural disasters.



Addressing housing need through microfinance initiatives

Microfinance has been praised for offering real possibilities to fight poverty in the developing world where a stable financial system is absent. How affordable housing loans for basic repairs coupled with housing support services can solve the existing housing need? [Read about it here](#)

News in Brief

Exhibition at The Ara Gallery benefits orphans

The Ara Gallery's [launch](#) this year was a great success with more than \$44,000 (USD) raised for Habitat for Humanity Lesotho's orphans and vulnerable children program.

2011 Jimmy & Rosalynn Carter Work Project

Habitat's 28th annual Jimmy & Rosalynn Carter Work Project will kick off a two-year effort to strengthen and support Habitat's work in Haiti. [Apply now](#)

China observed 3rd anniversary of Sichuan earthquake

Marking the third anniversary of the May 2008 earthquake in Sichuan province, China, Habitat for Humanity sent nearly 100 volunteers from Hong Kong to help rebuild homes for 150 families.

International Housing Summit 2011 dates announced

The second annual International Housing Summit, called ISH.SUM in 2010, will run on the 1 and 2 November, 2011 at the De Doelen centre in Rotterdam. To find out more, visit www.internationalhousingsummit.com

Habitat & Social Media



Photo galleries

This month Habitat features photo galleries from Macedonia. View our [Macedonia photo gallery section](#)

Volunteer with Habitat

We need volunteers to help build and renovate homes in our communities. 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 relatives, friends, co-workers, school or other groups, or join one of our featured trips.

- Trip to Armenia: [Building on Faith](#) from October 1 - 8, 2011. Sign up for the trip by sending us [an email](#)

Habitat for Humanity International is a Christian nonprofit organization dedicated to the cause of eliminating poverty housing. Since its foundation in 1976, Habitat has built and renovated more than 400,000 houses worldwide, providing simple, decent and affordable shelter for 2 million people.

In Europe and Central Asia Habitat for Humanity International works in 22 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 11,000 families together with volunteers and homeowners.

Find out more at www.habitateurope.org