

# Dominican Republic

## Habitat for Humanity in Dominican Republic

Habitat in The Dominican Republic seeks to improve the living conditions of low-income families through access to adequate housing.

Since 1986, the organization has helped more than 7,000 families with housing solutions. Visit us at:

[www.habitatdominicana.org](http://www.habitatdominicana.org)

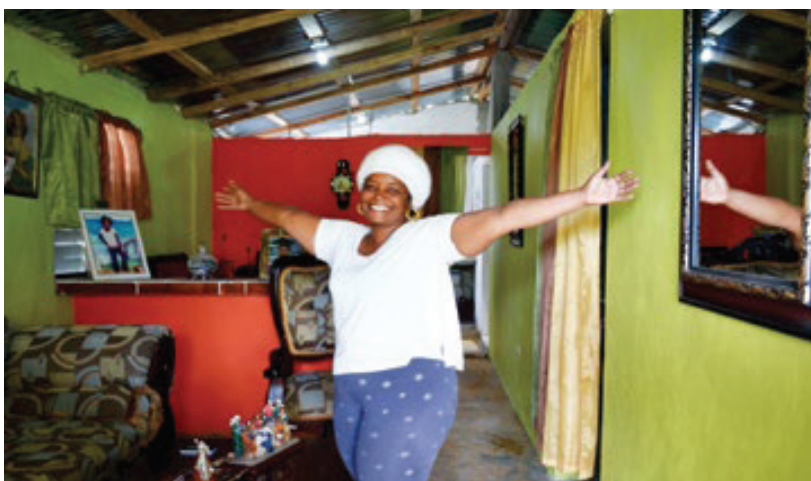
## The housing need in Dominican Republic

In the Dominican Republic, the housing deficit exceeds 1.2 million housing units, of which about 60 percent is qualitative (UNDP 2010). This means that the number of inadequate housing is greater than the number of families without homes. This figure is growing annually by an average of 50,000 to 60,000 homes.

Nationally, the housing production system involves families and communities in building their own homes. The high cost of construction services and low income of families do not allow them to have access to formal means of construction, aggravating the quality and safety of homes.

## Habitat's contribution in Dominican Republic

Habitat Dominican Republic contributes to improving the living conditions of families that are part of a qualitative and quantitative housing deficit. This is achieved by developing construction programs, generating partnerships with microfinancial institutions to facilitate access to credit for low-income families, and creating programs of financial and constructive education, to support and contribute to deficit reduction.



### COUNTRY FACTS\*

<b>Capital</b>	Santo Domingo
<b>Date of independence or creation of the state</b>	February 27, 1844
<b>Population</b>	9,445,281
<b>Urbanization (percentage of people in cities vs. rural zones)</b>	5.2%
<b>Life expectancy</b>	72 years
<b>Unemployment rate</b>	15%
<b>Percent of the population living below the poverty line</b>	42.7%*

\* Source: World Bank, September 2015

### HABITAT FACTS

<b>Date when Habitat started working in the country</b>	1986
<b>Individuals served in FY16</b>	18,820
<b>Volunteers hosted in FY16</b>	272
<b>Housing Solutions</b>	New



## Our programs

### Access Services Housing

We offer services (financial and non-financial) that help families access or update land tenure, basic essential services and turn housing into a durable asset. We provide technical construction support services, training in various topics like financial education, master builders, risk management and basic construction. We develop partnerships to promote organized, committed and empowered communities.

#### Financial Services

This program seeks to facilitate access to microcredit for housing for low-income families, so that they can acquire, repair or improve a complete house. We partner with other nonprofit organizations and microfinance institutions to serve the quantitative housing deficit in the country.

#### Volunteerism

We have successfully organized brigades of national and international volunteer work in order to mobilize the hearts, hands and voices of volunteers for the cause of decent and affordable housing.

We invite national and international brigades to join us and build hand in hand with the families we serve.

#### Meet a Habitat family

Arsenio works as a security officer and with his wife, Florinda, caressed the dream of having a decent home. He applied to the project "Building Hope Step by Step" in order to finish their house gradually. He says he will continue to build in stages and feels very thankful for Habitat Dominican Republic's support. Father of five children, Arsenio wants to move into his new home as soon as possible. "The house is the future of my family," he said.



#### What can you do?

You can help families in need in the Dominican Republic, currently living in unsanitary and overcrowded conditions, by one or more of the following:

#### DONATE

<https://www.habitat.org/cd/giving/one/donate.aspx>

#### VOLUNTEER

Participate in any of Habitat's Global Village volunteer teams travelling to the Dominican Republic, or lead your own.

For more information, visit:

[www.habitat.org/gv/catalog/lac/dominican-republic-focus](http://www.habitat.org/gv/catalog/lac/dominican-republic-focus)

#### HABITAT'S OFFICE

To learn more about Habitat's programs in the Dominican Republic, please contact:

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