

# Mexico

## Habitat for Humanity in Mexico

Since 1989, Habitat for Humanity Mexico has fought poverty through adequate housing, supporting and empowering more than 57,000 families in organized communities. For more information, visit:

<http://www.habitatmexico.org/>

## The housing need in Mexico

Despite the progress that has been made in providing housing in recent years, more than 53.3 million people in Mexico do not have the financial means to buy or build decent housing.

Family income has been losing purchasing power: 60.6 million people (51.6 percent) earn incomes below the welfare line, which are insufficient to acquire the goods and services they require to meet their most basic subsistence needs.

Of this population, 15.9 million people (13.6 percent) live in homes with dirt floors, roofs made of tin, cardboard or debris, walls made of mud, reeds, palm or sheets; 24.9 million (21.2 percent) have no access to drinking water, sanitation, electricity and fuel for cooking or heating food. In addition, more than 538,000 families live in overcrowded conditions.

## Habitat's contribution in Mexico

Habitat for Humanity Mexico works to combat poverty, supporting low-income families in building their homes; promoting community development through influencing public policies; attracting public and private resources for housing and sensitizing governments, donors and volunteers on the human right to live in adequate housing.



### COUNTRY FACTS\*

<b>Capital</b>	Mexico City
<b>Date of independence or creation of the state</b>	Sept. 16, 1810
<b>Population</b>	121,736,809 (2015)
<b>Urbanization (percentage of people in cities vs. rural zones)</b>	79.2% (2015)
<b>Life expectancy</b>	Men: 72.88 years Women: 78.55 years (2015)
<b>Unemployment rate</b>	4.8% (2014)
<b>Percent of the population living below the poverty line</b>	52.3% (2012)

\*Sources: Census 2010

### HABITAT FACTS

<b>Date when Habitat started working in the country</b>	1989
<b>Individuals served in FY16</b>	26,430
<b>Volunteers hosted in FY16</b>	4,607
<b>Housing Solutions</b>	New, Repairs, Incremental



## Our programs

### Home building

Through social training, technical assistance and financial schemes that allow the purchase of building materials, Habitat Mexico empowers people in their communities, making them able to build their own homes and those of their neighbors. This working model is known as Mutual Aid.

### Volunteerism

With the support of private, corporate and international volunteers, Habitat Mexico carries out construction and house improvement brigades. We mobilize large numbers of volunteers who seek to transform the lives of people and their communities. In this process, volunteers and families create bonds that often last a lifetime.

### Women moving the world

This program supports women who are heads of households living in vulnerable conditions. Its objective is to help women become protagonists of their own development and be an example for their children. The project includes housing construction brigades led by women.

### Meet a Habitat family

Leopoldina Bolaños Avelino lives in Mezcala, one of the poorest communities in the state of Guerrero. For years she lived with her family in a shack. "It felt like living in a pond: when it rained, water came in everywhere and it was very windy. My children cried when they saw how everything became wet: their clothes, our food, everything we owned," she said.

"One day I had the opportunity, with 14 other families, to build my own house. It completely changed my life. Now I have four rooms for me and my children, and even a firewood-saving stove, with which I cook better. In the community we are excited and happy. We will be eternally grateful to Habitat for Humanity Mexico."

### What can you do?

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

#### DONATE

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

#### VOLUNTEER

Join one of Global Village's scheduled trips to Mexico or organize your own brigade. For more information, please go to:

[www.habitat.org/gv/catalog/lac](http://www.habitat.org/gv/catalog/lac)

#### HABITAT'S OFFICE

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