

Dominican Republic

Habitat for Humanity in Dominican Republic

Habitat for Humanity Dominican Republic seeks to improve the living conditions of low-income families through access to decent and affordable housing.

Since 1986, the organization has provided approximately 18,800 housing solutions.

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 the country in improving the living conditions of the families that are part of the qualitative and quantitative housing deficit. This is achieved through the creation of programs that facilitate access to microfinancing for housing purposes to low-income families with technical assistance in construction and creating financial education programs that support and contribute to deficit reduction.



COUNTRY FACTS*

Capital	Santo Domingo
Date of independence or creation of the state	Feb. 27, 1844
Population	9.4 million
Urbanization (percentage of people in cities vs. rural zones)	5.2%
Life expectancy	72 years
Unemployment rate	15%
Percent of the population living below the poverty line	42.7%*

* Source: World Bank, September 2015

HABITAT FACTS

Date when Habitat started working in the country	1986
Individuals served in FY17	25,385*
Volunteers hosted in FY17	203
Housing solutions	New, incremental, repairs

* 23,245 served through market development



Our programs

Access Services Housing

We offer services (financial and non financial) that help families have essential services and turn housing into a durable asset. We provide constructive technical assistance training in different topics such as 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

Jacobo works as master builder and his wife is a domestic worker. This couple's dream was having a decent home. For this reason, they applied for the Construyendo Esperanza Paso a Paso (Building Hope Step By Step) project, in order to finish the house they had started to build. They had a reinforced concrete roof and had advanced progressively in the construction. Habitat Dominican Republic gave them the motivation they needed to be empowered in this process.

Jacobo wants to advance, by stages, in the improvement of his house. He feels lucky for the support Habitat Dominican Republic offered them. As a father of three, Jacobo said he was very grateful for Habitat's support and the technical assistance service in construction. By channeling his dream, he hopes that the project can help more Dominican families in need of a decent home. "The difference is dramatic," he said.



What can you do?

We build strength, stability and self-reliance through shelter. You can help us do it with the following actions:

DONATE

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

VOLUNTEER

Participate in any of the Global Village teams travelling to the Dominican Republic, or lead your own. For more information, visit: 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:

Cesarina Fabian, National Director
cfabian@habitatdominicana.org
+1809-547-2091 • +1829-257-2250
info@habitatdominicana.org

Habitat for Humanity Dominican Republic
Calle Pídagoro No.58
El Millon, Santo Domingo
Tel. 1809-547-2091