

# Paraguay

## Habitat for Humanity in Paraguay

Since 1998, Habitat for Humanity Paraguay has been working with families to attain better housing conditions and improve their lives.

For more information, visit:

[www.habitat.org.py](http://www.habitat.org.py)

## The housing need in Paraguay

According to the National Department of Housing, it is estimated that 1.1 million houses are required in Paraguay, and that number is increasing. An estimated 43 out of every 100 families live in inadequate housing conditions, according to the Inter-American Development Bank.

The lack of official information regarding deficit makes it difficult to measure the problem, but it is known that progressive construction is the primary way in which Paraguayan families have access to their homes.

## Habitat's contribution in Paraguay

In more than 20 years of work, Habitat for Humanity Paraguay has implemented actions that transform the housing conditions of families and vulnerable communities, mobilizing resources and promoting solidarity and responsibility.



### COUNTRY FACTS

<b>Capital</b>	Asunción
<b>Date of independence or creation of the state</b>	May 14-15, 1811
<b>Population</b>	7.05 million
<b>Urbanization (percentage of people in cities vs. rural zones)</b>	61.7%
<b>Life expectancy</b>	Women: 76.5 years Men: 70.8 years
<b>Unemployment rate</b>	5.2%
<b>Percent of the population living below the poverty line</b>	22.6%

### HABITAT FACTS

<b>Date when Habitat started working in the country</b>	1998
<b>Individuals served in FY18</b>	11,945
<b>Volunteers hosted in FY18</b>	581
<b>Housing solutions</b>	New, rehab, repairs, incremental

**FY** stands for fiscal year 2018, which starts on July 2017 and ends on June 2018.



## Our programs

### For the Future of Our Children

The goal of the project is to support the improvement of living conditions of families and the development of their children through safe, healthy and durable homes.

#### Serving Collaborators

This project is in alliance with private companies through their social corporate responsibility programs. We promote opportunities for the company's employees and their families to access a new house or improve their current home.

#### Project with financial allies

Through this project, we work in alliance with banks such as Vision and Itaú Bank, in which they provide the financial assistance to the families and Habitat provides the professional technical assistance in construction.

#### Events and volunteerism

During the year, we promote constructions to raise awareness and mobilize volunteers. The events most important events are "Women Build" and "More healthy bathroom." The volunteer program in Paraguay is organized nationally and internationally.

### Integral improvement of "Chacarita Alta" neighborhood

We implemented in the Chacarita Alta area of Asunción the social component to promote the active participation of the community and the sustainability of the interventions developed by Ministry National of Housing and Urbanism, the Municipality of Asunción and other institutions. An estimated 1,000 families participate in the improvement process. The initiative is financed by a microfinance institution and a counterpart.

#### "Barrio San Francisco" Social Development Plan

Through an agreement with Itaipu Binacional and in coordination with Paraguay's Ministry of Housing and Urbanism, which is responsible for the country's housing policies, we implemented the Social Development Plan for the "Barrio San Francisco." We collaborate with social workers to achieve the population census in the intervention area, cartographic mapping and family monitoring.

### Meet a Habitat family

Isabel wanted something better for her 6-year-old daughter, Alexandra, something better than sharing an overcrowded rental that overflowed with sewage during heavy rains. "She always told me, 'Mommy, I want our own house,'" Isabel says.

The two now have a home of their own. During Habitat Paraguay's recent Women Build event, volunteers from the city of Limpio joined up with a Global Village team from across the United States to help Isabel build a home for her daughter. Isabel is touched that so many volunteers came to help. "I did not expect so much," she says.

Isabel also talks about the day when a feeling of empowerment replaced one of hopelessness. She was living in the rental with relatives and her daughter already had encouraged her to apply to Habitat. "I was crying because the sewage got into our room," Isabel says. "But that day, the sky opened for us because I received a call from Habitat to tell me that my application was approved."



### What can you do?

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

#### DONATE

[www.habitat.org.py](http://www.habitat.org.py)

#### VOLUNTEER

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

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

#### HABITAT'S OFFICE

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