

Hong Kong



Habitat for Humanity in Hong Kong

Habitat for Humanity Hong Kong is dedicated to raising awareness and harnessing resources to support vulnerable and marginalized families secure decent, affordable housing, in Hong Kong, mainland China, across the Asia-Pacific region and other parts of the world.

The housing need in Hong Kong

Hong Kong is home to some of the world's richest people yet more than 1.32 million people in the prosperous city live below the poverty line, according to government data in 2017. The city was named the least affordable housing market for the eighth year running in a 2018 study by urban planning policy consultancy Demographia. About 210,000 low-income individuals in Hong Kong are renting rooms, cubicles or bed spaces.

How Habitat addresses the need in Hong Kong

Habitat provides a hand-up to low-income families, the elderly and the disabled in Hong Kong through home renovations by local volunteers. Habitat also leverages on Hong Kong's status as a premier Asian city to raise funds and promote its mission of building homes, communities and hope. Partners include corporations, schools, nongovernmental organizations and celebrities.



Hong Kong volunteers carrying a bamboo frame for a house during the 2018 Asia Build in Myanmar.



Project Home Works volunteers and a homeowner making a "house" gesture after the clean-up.

SAR* FACTS

Population	Over 7.35 million
Urbanization	100 percent live in cities
Life expectancy	84 years
Unemployment rate	2.8 percent
Population living below poverty line	19.6 percent

*Special Administrative Region of China

Source: World Factbook

HABITAT FACTS

When Habitat started in Hong Kong
2006

Individuals served in FY17
1,180

Volunteers engaged in FY17
1,095

Housing solutions
Project Home Works; Project School Works; engaging with volunteers; raising funds for post-disaster reconstruction



Project Home Works

Habitat for Humanity Hong Kong mobilizes individual volunteers, and others from schools and corporations to help renovate the homes of low-income families, the elderly and people living with disabilities in Hong Kong.

Engaging with volunteers

For the financial year ended June 30, 2017, more than 380 volunteers from Hong Kong took part in Habitat's Global Village builds in the Asia-Pacific region and elsewhere. Within Hong Kong, 949 student, public or corporate volunteers helped to repair homes of 234 low-income households, the elderly or disadvantaged groups under Project Home Works, in same period. Habitat Hong Kong also takes part in the annual Habitat Young Leaders Build campaign that engages youth volunteers in advocating, raising funds and building homes for Habitat. Habitat Hong Kong recently launched Project School Works, a one-day program for secondary school students and volunteers. Groups play a board game developed by Habitat Hong Kong called "My City,"

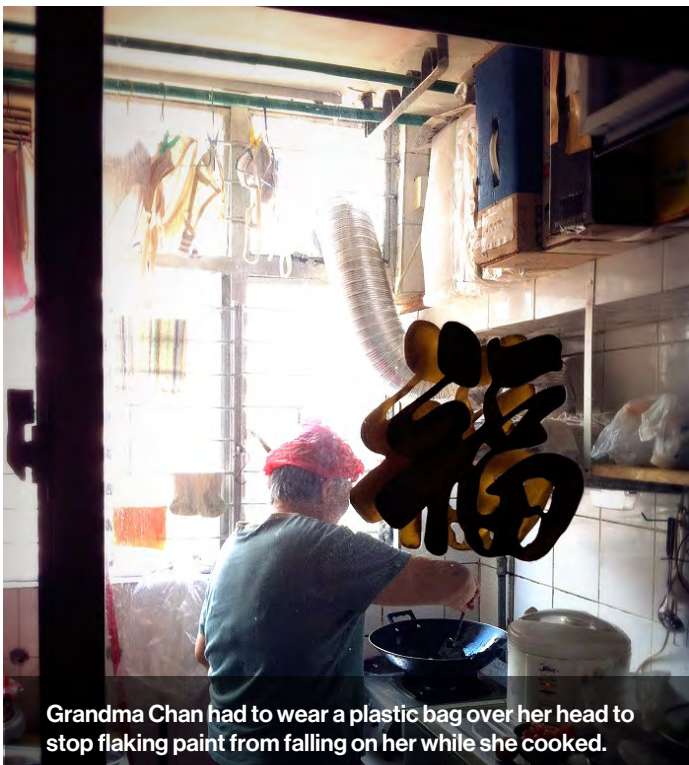
designed to serve as a neutral platform to discuss the sensitive topic of housing in Hong Kong, and then wrap up with a mural painting activity. This raises awareness of shelter issues while also improving the school environment.

Raising funds for post-disaster reconstruction

Leveraging on the strengths of a well-regulated banking system and a strategic geographical location, Habitat Hong Kong takes up the role of a fundraising hub for the region and beyond. Grants from the Disaster Relief Fund of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region government have enabled Habitat Hong Kong to respond to disasters in China, the Philippines, Nepal, Fiji, Bangladesh, India and Vietnam. This has enabled the distribution of water, sanitation and hygiene kits after flooding in Vietnam and Nepal in 2017, two cyclones affecting Fiji and Bangladesh in 2016, the Nepal earthquake in 2015, Typhoon Haiyan in the Philippines in 2014, and an earthquake in Sichuan, China, in 2013.

Meet a Habitat family

In the past, Grandma Chan's preferred wear for cooking was a plastic bag that she wore over her head. The "hat" stopped flaking paint from the ceiling from landing on her while her husband Hai Lai had to use a pot lid to cover ingredients as he handed them to her. The couple has lived in Kwun Tong Tsui Ping, a low-income housing estate, for more than eight years and cooking became stressful for them. The situation improved after Habitat's student volunteers helped them out as part of Project Home Works in July 2016. The volunteers scraped off flaking paint and smoothed the kitchen ceiling among other work. After a fresh coat of paint, the home looked as good as new. Now, the couple can enjoy meals with their granddaughter in a clean and comfortable home.



Grandma Chan had to wear a plastic bag over her head to stop flaking paint from falling on her while she cooked.

What you can do

You can help families around the world improve their living conditions by taking one or more of the following actions:

DONATE

In Hong Kong: habitat.org.hk/donate

In the U.S.*: habitat.org/donate/

* You can designate your donation to Habitat Hong Kong or a specific cause by clicking the designation option.

VOLUNTEER

Join one of the scheduled Global Village trips to one of the Habitat projects around the world or lead your own. For more information go to: volunteer@habitat.org.hk

To learn more about Habitat projects in Hong Kong, please contact us.

CONTACT

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