

Indonesia



Habitat for Humanity in Indonesia

Habitat for Humanity started in Indonesia in 1997 and currently works through branches in Jakarta, Surabaya, Yogyakarta, and Batam. Its largest program was rebuilding after the December 2004 Indian Ocean tsunami with more than 8,000 families helped. The increase in capacity enabled Habitat Indonesia to respond to other disasters as well as reach out to more families in need through the “We Build Indonesia” campaign. Habitat aims to galvanize resources to help more than 24,800 families improve their housing conditions by 2020.

The housing need in Indonesia

Indonesia is the world’s most extensive archipelago with more than 17,500 islands. Despite significant economic growth, more than 28 million Indonesians are living below the poverty line, according to World Bank data. These families face greater hardships in times of an economic downturn or a natural disaster. Indonesia is prone to earthquakes and volcanic eruptions with droughts, flooding, and mudslides expected to worsen due to climate change. Currently, nearly 70 percent of low-income housing is built by the families themselves rather than by the government or private developers. Almost 25 million families live in urban slums with many others settling along railway tracks and riverbanks, and on streets.

How Habitat addresses the need in Indonesia

Habitat works with its partners to build, repair and rehabilitate homes, and improve water and sanitation and educational facilities. Besides rebuilding homes after disasters, Habitat trains people to prepare for and lessen the impact of future disasters. Habitat Indonesia also aims to help 24,200 families through supporting its partners to increase products, services and financing for affordable housing. By 2020, Habitat Indonesia aims to mobilize 20,000 volunteers in raising awareness of the need for adequate housing.

COUNTRY FACTS

Capital	Jakarta
Main country facts	Gained independence in 1945
Population	Over 260.5 million
Urbanization	55.2 percent live in cities
Life expectancy	73 years
Unemployment rate	5.6 percent
Population living below poverty line	10.9 percent

Source: World Factbook

HABITAT FACTS

When Habitat started in Indonesia
1997

Individuals served in FY17
13,795

*Includes construction and market development

Volunteers engaged in FY17
3,208

Housing solutions
Decent housing for low-income families; disaster response and preparedness; housing microfinance partnerships; volunteer engagement



Decent housing for vulnerable families

In Indonesia, Habitat houses usually range from 25 to 30 square meters in size, with two bedrooms, a living room and a bathroom with toilet. Concrete blocks and cement board with wooden frames are used in the houses which have cement slab foundations and clay-tiled roofs. With Australian funding, Habitat has also built 351 homes with water and sanitation facilities for internally displaced families in Bitung.

Disaster response and preparedness

Habitat taps on the expertise built after the December 2004 Indian Ocean tsunami to respond to disasters. Following the December 2016 earthquake in Pidie, Aceh province, Habitat built much-needed water and sanitation facilities, provided hygiene training and distributed rubble removal kits. Previous responses included helping affected communities after earthquakes, volcanic eruptions and flooding in places such as East Java, Central Java, North Sumatera, North Sulawesi and Yogyakarta. Homes are not only rebuilt but communities are trained to be prepared for disasters and to reduce such risks.

Meet a Habitat family

After getting married in 2016, Misbah and his wife Mega lived in cramped quarters that they shared with his parents and his elder brother's family. Water leaked in through the roof and walls and the dirt floor was not hygienic. Living in such conditions, the couple could not plan for the future. That changed in February 2017 when they partnered with Habitat for Humanity Indonesia to build a decent, secure home in Bojong Koneng village, Bogor, West Java. Shortly after moving in, Misbah, 24, and Mega, 22, started a home-based business making cassava snacks that they take to the town to sell. "Once you have your own home, it builds your passion to do this and that. Now we want to focus first on the cassava business while continuing to produce 'cobek' (mortar)," Misbah said.



Misbah (center) and his wife Mega (right) make snacks at home which they then sell in town.

Housing microfinance partnerships

Habitat Indonesia works with partner microfinance institutions to help low-income families gain access to decent housing. The Institutions give out affordable loans for building houses while Habitat provides technical expertise. Through such partnerships, Habitat Indonesia aims to help 24,200 families by 2020.

Volunteer engagement

In 2017, global volunteer teams came from Australia, Canada, Hong Kong, Japan, Korea, the Netherlands, the Philippines, Saudi Arabia, Singapore and USA. Local volunteers from corporations, international schools, and Indonesian universities also lent a hand at large-scale events such as Habitat Young Leaders Build and 28uild.id. Over at Batam island, Habitat Indonesia hosts a constant stream of volunteers from Singapore who take part in weekend Batam Builds.

What you can do

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

DONATE

USD \$: [habitat.org/donate/indonesia](https://www.habitat.org/donate/indonesia)

VOLUNTEER

Join one of the scheduled Global Village trips to Indonesia or lead your own. For more information go to: [habitat.org/gv](https://www.habitat.org/gv)

TITHE

Establish a strong and rewarding tithe partnership to help build houses globally! Quote **INDONESIA** on your checks sent to: Habitat for Humanity International, Attn: Affiliate Tithe, 121 Habitat St. Americus, GA 31709

To learn more about Habitat projects in Indonesia or in other parts of the region, please contact us.

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