

## **Country profile**

# Jordan

### Habitat for Humanity Jordan

Habitat for Humanity Jordan helps low-income families improve their living conditions. In 2011, Habitat Jordan started a new mechanism of work called the Fund for Humanity Jordan. It is used as a wholesale loan fund issued to Community Based Organizations, or CBOs, that are committed to start and grow their own sustainable housing program to serve low-income families. In 2016, Habitat Jordan started restructuring the internal working procedures and seeking external support. Since 2002, Habitat Jordan has worked with 36 CBOs and served more than 8,277 families.

### The housing need in Jordan

In Jordan, three events have shaped the current housing situation: 1) economic stagnation, 2) the rise in cost of living, and 3) the mass influx of refugees in the last three decades. The average income of families served by Habitat Jordan is approximately US\$6,000 per year which, according to the 2010 Jordanian department of statistics, falls around the national poverty line. Unemployment is high, especially in rural villages where agriculture is a major source of employment. In the villages, families tend to have many children and live in small, two-room houses. The lack of privacy increases family tension and makes it difficult for children to sleep and study. Women struggle to cook in makeshift kitchens with dirt floors. Without proper food storage cabinets, pests and rodents are a constant challenge. Unsanitary toilet facilities bring additional health risks.

### Habitat's contribution in Jordan

Habitat Jordan is currently working with 22 CBOs in urban communities in the Greater Amman area. Houses are made of cement blocks; the average home is about 750 to 1,076 square feet. Each new house brings greater opportunities for families to lead safe, healthy and productive lives. Habitat Jordan hosts international volunteers and local school and corporate groups to help build houses with homeowners.



### **COUNTRY FACTS\***

Capital	Amman
Main country fact	Among lowest levels of water resource availability per capita worldwide
Population	9.5 million
Urbanization	83.7%
Life expectancy	74.6 years
Unemployment rate	18%
Population living below the poverty line	14.2%

\*Find more country facts on: CIA The World Factbook – Jordan

### HABITAT FACTS

Date when Habitat started working in the country 2002

### Individuals served in FY17 3,925\*\*

\*\*Includes 3,390 served through market development

**Volunteers hosted in FY17** 1,665

### Housing solutions New homes, rehabs,

market development



### **Our programs**

### Wholesale projects

The Habitat Jordan Housing Project uses a formal selection process to identify Community Based Organizations with the most potential to implement the project. After identification of a new implementing partner, the Housing Project evaluates loan applications received from the CBOs. Loan agreements are signed to enable the implementing partners to issue loans to homeowners in their community and build their Fund for Humanity.

#### Habitat Jordan support

This housing program helps local Jordanian communities build their technical and financial capacity and sustainability, using training and evaluation processes in credit, construction, documentation, accounting, and legal compliance and reporting. Access to finance will be awarded to best performing CBOs, based on key performance indicators such as good governance, strategic allocation of resources, repayment rates, advocacy and volunteer mobilization.



### **Meet a Habitat family**

Mahmoud lived many years as a single parent after the death of his first wife more than two decades ago. His second wife, Fuzeyah, and Mahmoud have raised six children together. In the past, Mahmoud worked on a farm, but he can no longer work due to his old age and heart condition. He also suffers from diabetes.

The previous family home was unhealthy and hazardous, with two small rooms and a kitchen and an outside bathroom. Water used to leak through the metal roof during rainy season. Thanks to Habitat Jordan's financial and technical support, the family now lives in a healthy environment. They have two rooms and a solid roof made of cement blocks that prevent leakage. They can now use the kitchen and bathroom without having to walk outside.

### What you can do

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

Donate Go to <u>habitat.org/donate</u> and designate your gift to Habitat Jordan.

Volunteer Join one of the scheduled Global Village trips to Jordan or lead your own. <u>Contact us</u> to learn more.

Advocate Share, like and comment on HFH Jordan's Facebook page.

Tithe All affiliate tithe gifts are sent internationally to serve families outside of the United States. To support the work of Habitat **JORDAN**, please send your tithe to: Habitat for Humanity International P.O. Box 6598 Americus, GA 31709-3498

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