

# 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 figures show that the deficits are primarily qualitative, both in urban and rural areas. Demand for housing improvement is an important part of the qualitative deficit (73 percent); the rest is demand for expansion or demand for expansion with improvements.

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

## Habitat's contribution in Paraguay

Throughout its history, 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>	6.7 million
<b>Urbanization (percentage of people in cities vs. rural zones)</b>	60.5%
<b>Life expectancy</b>	Women: 76.5 years Men: 70.8 years
<b>Unemployment rate</b>	6.3%
<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 FY17</b>	11,070
<b>Volunteers hosted in FY17</b>	544
<b>Housing solutions</b>	New, rehab, repairs, improvements



## Our programs

### Housing solutions

Habitat Paraguay partners with families who, despite having a place to live, suffer from problems such as water filtrations, overcrowding, bad electrical connections, and no sanitation.

Technical assistance for repairs, renovations and expansions, as well as access to the project "Together for Your Home," is offered for those applying for new housing construction.

### Events

During the year, we promote flash constructions to raise awareness and mobilize volunteers. We encourage the participation of families, businesses, suppliers and volunteers who enjoy helping others and understand the need for decent and affordable housing.

### Volunteerism

Each year, six or seven international groups are mobilized through Habitat's Global Village volunteer program, along with 10 to 12 national groups that help in the construction of housing solutions. In communities, volunteer committees coordinate briefings in their neighborhoods. In addition, administrative volunteers also work in the offices for short periods of time.

### Services to access a home

We promote the work of local leaders, in towns, neighborhood committees, schools, churches, businesses, NGOs, etc., to advocate for decent housing and reach families who need new homes or improve the conditions of those who already have one.

### Meet a Habitat family

Darío and Patricia lived with their daughter Jimena in Darío's father's house. After learning about the options offered by Habitat for Humanity Paraguay, they decided to materialize their dream of being independent and build a house of their own. In partnership with 14 foreign volunteers, they were able to build the foundations for their home.

At the moment of the construction the family expressed being very satisfied for having the help of volunteers who, besides creating friendly ties, collaborated in making sure the work progressed rapidly.

"This is an opportunity you hardly find somewhere else, having someone offer you a house with rental-like payments," said Darío.



### 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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