

Philippines



Habitat for Humanity in Philippines

Since Habitat for Humanity Philippines started operations in 1988, it has served more than 140,000 families with decent housing. With significant scaling up of its activities, Habitat Philippines is able to help an average of over 25,000 families annually since 2013. Habitat and its partners also provide families with improved access to clean water, sustainable energy, healthcare, education and livelihood. Working in a country that lies along the Pacific Typhoon Belt and the Pacific Ring of Fire, Habitat frequently responds to devastating natural disasters that hit the Philippines annually.

The housing need in Philippines

In the Philippines, nearly four million families are living in unsafe, unsanitary and unsustainable conditions. The Philippine government's current housing policy and mechanisms for housing subsidy have been deemed inadequate to resolve the rising housing deficit. By 2030, the housing backlog will increase to about 6.5 million units. Partnership between the Philippine government, private land developers, corporations and other organizations is key to the formation of a comprehensive and sustainable housing program.

How Habitat addresses the need in Philippines

Habitat Philippines is a key partner to government agencies, private corporations and other non-profit organizations in providing shelter solutions. Habitat takes on a holistic approach in the communities it creates. It takes the lead in providing livelihood training, strengthening the skills of the youth through the Habitat Young Leaders Build campaign and Leadership Academy training, and advocacy efforts centering on security of tenure issues and empowering communities to assert their right to adequate shelter.



Max Hammond (center), a Peace Corps volunteer, with Demi and Lovely from the North Kawayanville community youth during the two-day Leadership Academy in Tacloban City. Photo: Habitat for Humanity Philippines/ Nina Imperial.

COUNTRY FACTS

Capital	Manila
Main country facts	Five out of 20 typhoons that hit annually are destructive
Population	Over 105.8 million
Urbanization	46.9 percent live in cities
Life expectancy	69.6 years
Unemployment rate	7.7 percent
Population living below poverty line	21.6 percent

Source: World Factbook

HABITAT FACTS

When Habitat started in Philippines
1988

Individuals served in FY18
633,745

**Includes construction and market development*

Volunteers hosted in FY18
6,554

Housing solutions

Urban renewal projects; youth empowerment; awareness-raising and advocacy; sustainable construction technology; revitalization of disaster-affected communities



Urban renewal and development

Under the regular housing and community development programs, Habitat Philippines aims to lift low-income Filipino families out of overcrowded, unhealthy living conditions or displacement in urban areas by providing them with decent shelter in healthy communities. The average cost of a new home is slightly less than US\$12,000. In disaster-hit areas, Habitat Philippines has helped affected families recover, gain access to permanent housing, and prepare for natural disasters and other calamities through training.

Building the next generation of shelter advocates

Habitat Philippines has made it a priority to work hand-in-hand with the youth and create the next generation of shelter advocates through the Habitat Young Leaders Build movement and the HYL B Leadership Academy. The youths are thus engaged to take action together in building homes and communities, speaking out for decent shelter, and raising funds and awareness of the need for adequate housing. A US\$25 donation enables one youth to receive a leadership training session.

Sustainable and appropriate construction technology

Through collaborating with private companies, Habitat Philippines provides communities with appropriate, sustainable construction technology. The communities are often involved in the production of such construction materials that offer additional livelihood opportunities. A disaster-resilient, environmentally friendly home that is built with the cement bamboo frame technology costs about US \$10,500.

Awareness and advocacy

Habitat Philippines supports Habitat for Humanity's global advocacy campaign, Solid Ground, to help 10 million people secure access to land for shelter. To this end, Habitat Philippines has attended committee hearings by the Philippines' House of Representatives and filed a resolution calling for an inquiry into the implementation of Presidential Proclamations that dedicate land for socialized housing. Habitat also works with the Philippines' Housing and Urban Development Coordinating Council on implementing the New Urban Agenda. These efforts are expected to reach 270,000 families who are in need of adequate shelter. With a donation of US\$15,000, we can organize a housing advocacy awareness event.

Meet a Habitat family

Annalyn, Wilfredo and their two sons used to live in a tiny room over an open sewage canal in the flood-prone slums of Bacolod City, the Philippines. In 1999, they worked alongside international volunteers to build their own home during Habitat for Humanity's Carter Work Project in a village they had dubbed "Pamana".

Feeling at peace, Annalyn could leave her children at home while she worked in a salon and Wilfredo held a carpentry job. With their combined income, they were able to buy a small plot of land to plant fruit trees as well as run a modest construction business.

Both their sons are now on their way to becoming full-fledged aircraft mechanics. Annalyn and Wilfredo also welcomed two daughters who need not experience the hardship of living in a slum. "Our home is the place where we keep our family whole, stable and secure. Our children know that they can always return to this place," Annalyn says.

What you can do

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

DONATE

In Philippines: give2habitat.org/ph/donate

In the US: habitat.org/donate

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

VOLUNTEER

Join one of the scheduled Global Village trips to the Philippines or lead your own. For more information go to: habitat.org/gv



Annalyn (third from left), pictured with her mother Agnes and daughters Darlene and Glydel, is glad that her children can always have a home to return to.

TITHE

Establish a strong and rewarding tithe partnership to help build houses globally! Quote **PHILIPPINES** 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 the Philippines or in other parts of the region, please contact us.

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