

Country profile 2016

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC



Habitat for Humanity in Dominican Republic

Habitat in The Dominican Republic seeks to improve the living conditions of low-income families through access to adequate housing. Since 1986, the organization has helped more than 7,000 families with housing solutions. Visit us at: www.habitatdominicana.org

The housing need in Dominican Republic

In the Dominican Republic, the housing deficit exceeds 1,200,000 housing units, of which about 60% is qualitative (UNDP 2010). This means that the number of inadequate housing is greater than the number of families without homes. This figure is growing annually by an average of 50,000 to 60,000 homes.

Nationally, the housing production system is the self-production or social production, which is the construction of housing with the involvement of families and communities. The high cost of construction services and low income of families do not allow them to have access to formal means of construction, aggravating the quality and safety of homes.

Habitat's contribution in Dominican Republic

Habitat Dominican Republic contributes to improving the living conditions of families that are part of a qualitative and quantitative housing deficit. This is achieved by developing construction programs, generating partnerships with micro financial institutions to facilitate access to credit for low-income families, and creating programs of financial and constructive education, to support and contribute to deficit reduction.



COUNTRY FACTS

Capital	Santo Domingo
Date of independence or creation of the state	February 27 th , 1844
Population	9,445,281
Urbanization (percentage of people in cities vs. rural zones)	51.2%
Life expectancy	72 years
Unemployment rate	15%
Percent of the population living below the poverty line	42.7%*

* Source: World Bank, September 2015

HABITAT FACTS

Date when Habitat started working in the country	1986
Families served	Over 7,000
Volunteers hosted	Over 1,600
Housing solutions	Over 7,000



Our programs

Access Services Housing

We offer services (financial and non-financial) that help families access or update land tenure, basic essential services and turn housing into a durable asset. We provide technical construction support services, training in various topics like financial education, master builders, risk management and basic construction. We develop partnerships to promote organized, committed and empowered communities.

Financial Services

Seeks to facilitate access to microcredit for housing for low-income families, so that they can acquire, repair or improve a complete house. We partner with other non-profit organizations and microfinance institutions to serve the quantitative housing deficit in the country.

Volunteerism

We have successfully organized brigades of national and international volunteer work in order to mobilize the hearts, hands and voices of volunteers for the cause of adequate and affordable housing. We invite national and international brigades to join our work and build hand in hand with the families we serve.

Meet a Habitat family

Arsenio works as a security officer in a company and with his wife, Florinda, caressed the dream of having adequate housing. He applied to the project "Building Hope Step by Step" in order to finish the house that had begun with a ceiling of reinforced concrete and has made progress in gradually building it. He says he will build what remains in order to move in stages and said he felt lucky for the support offered by Habitat Dominicana for being beneficiary of the project.

Father of five children, Arsenio wants to move into his new home as soon as possible. He said he felt grateful for the support of Habitat to channel their dreams and hopes that the project can help more Dominican families in need of a suitable home. "The house is the future of my family," he said.

What you can do

You can help families in need in The Dominican Republic, currently living in unsanitary and overcrowded conditions, by one or more of the following:

DONATE

<https://www.habitat.org/cd/giving/one/donate.aspx>

VOLUNTEER

Participate in any of the Global Village teams travelling to the Dominican Republic, or lead your own. For more information, visit:

habitat.org/gv/catalog/lac

www.habitat.org/gv/catalog/lac/dominican-republic-focus

HABITAT'S OFFICE

To learn more about Habitat's programs in the Dominican Republic, please contact:

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