

Profile HONG KONG



Habitat for Humanity in Hong Kong

Habitat for Humanity Hong Kong is dedicated to raising awareness of the need for decent, affordable housing and harnessing resources to improve living conditions including access to clean water, sanitation and electricity for families across the Asia-Pacific region, including China.

The housing need in Hong Kong

In Hong Kong, people live in a city that is home to some of the world's richest people as well as some 960,000 people who live below the poverty line, according to government data published in 2015. Not all in this prosperous society are enjoying the same basic right of having a decent home. According to research done by the Hong Kong Council of Social Service, the number of low-income families is on the rise. More than one third of low-income families rent rooms, cubicles or bed space. One in every four persons in the low-income group is aged above 65.

How Habitat addresses the need in Hong Kong

Habitat provides a hand-up to low-income families, the elderly and the disabled in Hong Kong through home repairs by local volunteers. Habitat also leverages on Hong Kong's status as a premier Asian city to raise funds and promote its mission of building homes, communities and hope. Partners include corporations, schools, non-governmental organizations and celebrities.



Local volunteers repaired Grandma Keing's home under Project Home Works

SAR* FACTS

Population	7.14 million (July 2015 est.)
Urbanization	100 percent lives in cities (2015)
Life expectancy	83 years (2015 est.)
Unemployment rate	2.9 percent (2015 est.)
Population living below poverty line	19.6 percent (2012 est.)

*Special Administrative Region of the People's Republic of China

Source: World Factbook

HABITAT FACTS

When Habitat started in Hong Kong
2006

Families served*
More than 440

Volunteers hosted*
More than 3,700

**Cumulative figure*

- Housing solutions**
- Project Home Works
 - Engaging with volunteers
 - Raising funds for post-disaster reconstruction



Project Home Works

Habitat for Humanity Hong Kong mobilizes individual volunteers, and others from schools and corporations to help repair the homes of low-income families, the elderly and the physically disabled in Hong Kong.

Engaging with volunteers

For the financial year ended 30 June 2015, 389 volunteers from Hong Kong took part in Habitat's Global Village builds in the Asia-Pacific region and elsewhere. Within Hong Kong, student or corporate volunteers help to repair homes of low-income households, the elderly or disadvantaged groups under Project Home Works. Habitat Hong Kong also takes part in the annual Habitat Young Leaders Build campaign that engages youth volunteers in advocating, raising funds and building homes for Habitat.

Raising funds for post-disaster reconstruction

Leveraging on the strengths of a well-regulated banking system and a strategic geographical location, Habitat Hong Kong takes up the role of a fundraising hub to support disaster response efforts in the Asia-Pacific region and beyond. Grants from the Disaster Relief Fund Advisory Committee of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region government have enabled Habitat Hong Kong to respond to disasters in China, the Philippines and Nepal. These included reconstruction in the Philippines following 2013's Typhoon Haiyan and help for affected Nepali families after 2015's earthquake. Habitat also distributed relief items such as cooking oil, torches and blankets to more than 6,335 families who were hit by the April 2013 earthquake in Sichuan province, China.



Grandpa Chan checking out the newly installed water pipes

Meet a Habitat family

Grandpa and Grandma Chan, in their 80s, were living a happy life for years in an old stone house in the fishing village of Lei Yue Mun until a typhoon struck in July 2014. With the water pipes destroyed, they had no reliable source of water supply. After failing to repair the water pipes despite several attempts, the elderly couple had to resort to fetching hot water from the public washroom, about a 20-minute walk away. The water is only available for a few hours a day. "You'll need to walk really slowly on your way back, so that you won't sweat again after all the effort," said Grandma Chan.

By soliciting donations through an online crowdfunding platform, Habitat Hong Kong helped the Chans to apply for a water meter license, and hired technicians to install new water pipes. In mid-July 2015, the couple could finally have hot water again.

What you can do

DONATE or **VOLUNTEER** to help families break the poverty cycle through decent homes. To learn more about Habitat Hong Kong's work, please contact us.

Habitat for Humanity Hong Kong

23/E, Congregation House,
119-121 Leighton Road,
Causeway Bay, Hong Kong
Tel: +852 2520 4000

Fax: +852 2520 4020

Email: enquiry@habitat.org.hk

 habitat.org.hk

 [youtube.com/user/habitatchina/](https://www.youtube.com/user/habitatchina/)

 [instagram.com/HabitatHK/](https://www.instagram.com/HabitatHK/)



Habitat Hong Kong's Project Home Works mobilizes local volunteers to clean up the homes of those living alone.