

Country profile 2016

# MEXICO



## Habitat for Humanity in Mexico

Since 1989, Habitat for Humanity Mexico has fought poverty through adequate housing, supporting and empowering more than 57,000 families in organized communities. For more information, visit: [www.habitatmexico.org/](http://www.habitatmexico.org/)

## The housing need in Mexico

Despite the progress that has been made in providing housing in recent years, more than 53.3 million people in Mexico do not have the financial means to buy or build adequate housing (45.5%).

Family income has been losing purchasing power: 60.6 million people (51.6%) earn incomes below the welfare line, which are insufficient to acquire the goods and services they require to meet their most basic subsistence needs.

Of this population, 15.9 million people (13.6%) live in homes with dirt floors, roofs made of tin, cardboard or debris, walls made of mud, reeds, palm or sheet; 24.9 million (21.2%) have no access to basic services of potable water, drainage, electricity and fuel for cooking or heating food. In addition, more than 538,000 families live in overcrowded conditions.

## Habitat's contribution in Mexico

Habitat for Humanity Mexico works to combat poverty, supporting low-income families in building their homes; promoting community development through influencing public policies; attracting public and private resources for housing and sensitizing governments, donors and volunteers on the human right to live in adequate housing.

## COUNTRY FACTS

<b>Capital</b>	Mexico City
<b>Date of independence or creation of the state</b>	September 16 <sup>th</sup> , 1810
<b>Population</b>	121,736,809 (2015)
<b>Urbanization (percentage of people in cities vs. rural zones)</b>	79.2% (2015)
<b>Life expectancy</b>	Men: 72.88 years Women: 78.55 years (2015)
<b>Unemployment rate</b>	4.8% (2014)
<b>Percent of the population living below the poverty line</b>	52.3% (2102)

## HABITAT FACTS

<b>Date when Habitat started working in the country</b>	1989
<b>Families served</b>	57,000
<b>Volunteers hosted</b>	More than 6,891
<b>Housing solutions</b>	57,000



## Our programs

### Home building

Through social training, technical assistance and financial schemes that allow the purchase of building materials, Habitat Mexico empowers people in their communities, making them able to build their own homes and those of their neighbors. This working model is known as Mutual Aid.

#### Volunteerism

With the support of private, corporate and international volunteers, each year we carry out construction brigades and housing improvement. We mobilize large numbers of volunteers who seek to transform the lives of people and their communities, creating ties of cooperation with families who have the opportunity to work; enriched by the experience of helping others and appreciating more what you have at home. In addition to these experiences, international volunteers have the opportunity to meet new people and places, experience different ways of life and coexist with communities.

#### Women moving the world

This program works to support women who are heads of households living in vulnerable conditions of marginalization and poverty. The objective is to create groups of women that can be protagonists of their development and encourage their children. The project includes the development of housing construction brigades for female heads of households, seeking to unite society to create awareness around the issue of women and housing.

### Meet a Habitat family

Leopoldina Bolaños Avelino lives in Mezcala, one of the poorest communities in the state of Guerrero. For years she lived with his family in a house of reeds and sheet.

“My house was a pond, a lot of water came in and it was very windy; at night my kids were crying at seeing how the rain wet their clothes, corn and everything we had”.

“One day I had the opportunity, with 14 other families, to build my own house. It completely changed my life. Now I have four rooms for me and my children, and even a firewood saving stove, with which I cook better. In the community we are excited and happy. We will eternally grateful to Habitat for Humanity Mexico.”

### What you can do

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

#### DONATE

[www.habitatmexico.org](http://www.habitatmexico.org)

#### VOLUNTEER

Join one of Global Village's scheduled trips to Mexico or organize your own brigade. For more information, please go to: [www.habitat.org/gv/catalog/lac](http://www.habitat.org/gv/catalog/lac)

#### HABITAT'S OFFICE

To learn more about Habitat's programs in Mexico, please contact:

Luis Armenta Fraire  
National Executive Deputy Director  
[larmenta@habitatmexico.org](mailto:larmenta@habitatmexico.org)  
+(55) 5519 0113, ext. 144

Lourdes Diaz Ochoa  
Resource Development Director  
+(55) 5519 0113, ext. 107  
[ldiaz@habitatmexico.org](mailto:ldiaz@habitatmexico.org)

Habitat for Humanity Mexico, A.C.  
Av. Xola 162, Col. Alamos, Del. Benito Juarez, C.P.03400, Mexico, D.F.  
Phone: +(55) 5519 0113  
Fax: +(55) 5519 0113, ext. 131

[donativos@habitatmexico.org](mailto:donativos@habitatmexico.org)  
[www.habitatmexico.org](http://www.habitatmexico.org)