



An E-Newsletter from Europe and Central Asia

March 2013

All of us admire beauty. Women around us are this beauty. Whether it is your grandmother, your mother or your wife, you owe at least your life to one of them.

In many places, women fight every day for their lives and those of their children. Some live in poverty and illiteracy or on a small income and with hands full of responsibilities.

This March we celebrate the power of women by helping build a better future for them and the next generations. Join us to talk about the problems women face and how we can overcome them!

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Creating a better future for women

As we celebrate the beauty and power of women this month, [we take a look](#) at the issues they face around the world and try to find solutions to help them live a better life. You can also be involved!



Armenia: Women who overcome the past

Some of the former Soviet countries are still fighting with problems from the past. In Armenia, many families suffered losses in the 1988 earthquake and afterwards during the armed conflict with Azerbaijan. [Read Rayisa's story](#) and see how she copes with difficulties.



Swiss Re and Habitat partner to end poverty

In Feira Nova, Brasil, women peel cassava for a living. They earn too little to support their families. [Read](#) how the Swiss Re Foundation and Habitat are working to improve living conditions for families from Feira Nova.



From the office to the build site

Women Build is Habitat's volunteering program that brings together women from all walks of life to address the housing crisis facing millions of women and children worldwide. Read about the experience of one [Women Build team](#) and find out about future trips.

News in Brief

Housing Forum Europe & Central Asia

Featured speakers at the second Housing Forum Europe and Central Asia will be Raquel Rolnik, UN Special Rapporteur on the Right to Adequate Housing and David Sanderson, Director, Centre for Development and Emergency Practice. Have you already [registered](#) for the event?

Shelter Report 2013

This 2013 Shelter Report lays out the case for continued support for low- and moderate-income homeownership in the US through effective federal programs and the efforts of nonprofit organizations like Habitat for Humanity. Read [the report](#).

Asia's youths and celebrities want to end poverty housing

Habitat for Humanity launched its Habitat [Youth BUILD 2013 campaign](#) in Asia Pacific. Over 10,000 youths are to take part in building homes. Bollywood actor John Abraham is among the celebrities who have pledged support.

Are you going to make a difference?

Since he retired, Irving Hall has traveled the world building and funding Habitat houses. In 2011, he was one of the oldest volunteers on the Jimmy & Rosalynn Carter Work Project in Léogâne, Haiti. [Find out](#) how a simple question led to a 500-home Guatemala Dream Project.

Habitat & Social Media

Find us on Facebook. Join global conversations through [Volunteer Adventures](#). Tell the world about your volunteer trips and experience!

Women Build in Poland

11 – 18 May, 2013: Women from Northern Ireland gather to build in Poland, where overcrowded and damp housing without proper sanitation is still a reality for too many of Poland's low-income families. Find out more about the build [here!](#)

Habitat for Humanity International is a global nonprofit Christian housing organization that seeks to put God's love into action by bringing people together to build homes, communities and hope. Since 1976, Habitat has served more than 500,000 families by building and improving homes; by advocating for fair and just housing policies; and by providing training and access to resources to help families improve their shelter conditions. An estimated 17,000 of these families are in Europe and Central Asia, where Habitat has been active since the mid-1990s. For more information, to donate or to volunteer, please visit www.habitateurope.org