



An E-Newsletter from Europe and Central Asia

October 2012

In Habitat, we believe that everyone has the right to safe, decent and affordable housing. It is a fundamental human need and should be observed and guaranteed universally.

Read our news and join all those in support of adequate shelter this October, as we take action to create a world where everyone has a safe, decent and affordable place to live.

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One home, one community

In observance of World Habitat Day on October 1, Habitat for Humanity is hosting hundreds of global events to take action and help raise awareness about the issue of poverty housing. Can we stop [poverty housing](#)?



Being a city changer

Our society needs a new housing paradigm to deal with the rapid growth of cities and slum areas in these cities. How emerging digital technologies can help with this task was discussed by delegates at [World Urban Forum](#) in Naples in September 2012.



Building big for Romania

This year's Big Build is taking place simultaneously across two locations in Romania, Oradea and Craiova. More than 400 volunteers work to complete 11 homes from the foundation to the roof in just 5 days. Take a peek at the [Big Build site](#) now!



Where will you students go?

Habitat partners with more than 55 schools and universities, helping them fulfill their creativity, action and service requirements. We offer [volunteer trips](#) through our Global Village program for students and teachers to build homes together.

News in Brief

Housing Forum Europe & Central Asia

Four partnering organizations—Habitat for Humanity, IFRC, UNDP and UNECE—are holding the second Housing Forum Europe & Central Asia on 22-24 April, 2013 in Palais des Nations in Geneva, Switzerland. Registration started in September. For more information, visit the Forum website www.ecahousingforum.eu.

Dear Prime Minister

In Great Britain, Habitat marked World Habitat Day on October 1, 2012, by writing an [open letter](#) to Prime Minister David Cameron asking to put greater emphasis on property rights and land tenure issues in the post-2015 development agenda debate.

Why We Build

Watch a [video](#) about how a wheelchair-accessible Habitat home changed the lives of a Portuguese family.

Habitat & Social Media

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

Check out our new [International Service Learning Trips](#) video on **YouTube**.

Youth Build in Romania

4 – 11 August, 2013: Make your mark early on in life! Come to Romania with dozens of other young people from around the UK and volunteer alongside a community as they build decent homes in this special [event build](#).

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