



Women Build: project-based funding



MIKEL FLAMM

Join the movement. Make a difference around the world.

Over the course of its history, Habitat for Humanity's Women Build program has helped bring women together for a common purpose: to change the lives of families in their own communities.

Today, Habitat for Humanity International's Women Build program also seeks to financially support Habitat projects worldwide that focus on the needs of women, children and

other people living in vulnerable conditions.

This means your affiliate's Women Build group now has the opportunity to directly fund international Habitat projects being supported by HFHI's Women Build program.

Read on to find out how you can change lives and uplift communities around the world.



STEFFAN HACKER

Rebuilding rural communities and promoting gender equality

Habitat Côte d'Ivoire hopes to help 29 cocoa-farming families—including at least nine with women-headed households—build safe, healthy and durable homes, and shower/latrines by providing microcredit loans and construction expertise. In addition, mosquito nets will be distributed and community members will be trained in health and hygiene. All 29 new homeowners—male and female—will also be trained in income-generating activities.

All of these measures will contribute to the reconstruction and reconciliation process in the country's central region—the nation's poorest. This project is part of a three-year effort in the region to house 600 families—one-third will be women-headed households—in an area of the country devastated from the effects of civil war.

Gender disparities remain great in this region's rural communities, despite the fact that women provide 80 percent of the labor for food production and sell 60 percent of the area's crops. As men continue to abandon rural communities to seek work in cities, more women are becoming

heads of households. And while Ivorian law grants women the right to own property, traditional norms often deny women that right.

Inheritance rights and secure land tenure are vital to helping widows and single mothers raise their family in a safe home environment. Overall, one-third of Habitat Côte d'Ivoire's homeowners are women. Through training classes, Habitat educates and sensitizes communities to the right of women to have land and own homes.

Key info

Project code: CI 10990

Where: Côte d'Ivoire's rural central region.

What: Help 29 farming families—including at least nine with women-headed households—build new homes and create more hygienic living conditions.

Why: To rebuild rural communities and to promote gender equality and reconciliation.

How much: \$75,000.

To contribute to this project, write a check to HFHI and note project code "CI 10990" in the memo. Mail checks to HFHI, c/o Finance department. Please also e-mail WBprojectfund@habitat.org and specify you want this to go to project code "CI 10990."



TAHILA MINTZ

Tajikistan
Europe and
Central Asia

Improving health through clean, safe water

Only 58 percent of the 7 million people living in Tajikistan have access to clean, safe water. In one of the biggest—and poorest—regions of the country, Habitat for Humanity Tajikistan aims to provide 2,200 families with access to safe drinking water by using innovative, alternative technology.

The project, based in the Kumsangir and Khuroson regions, will aim to construct 2,200 BioSand Water Filters and teach families how to use them; create 50 new, protected reservoirs; form construction groups and train them so they can construct the water filters and reservoirs; teach families proper water and hygiene habits; and establish a resource center with training and workshop facilities within these communities.

Right now, drinking water in these regions is typically drawn from contaminated irrigation canals and ditches. In winter, when those canals dry out, people have to use water from open ponds, shared by livestock. Typhoid, diarrhea and dysentery are common.

BioSand Water Filters are inexpensive, sustainable and require no chemicals or electric power. The filters can be made by using locally available materials. Most importantly, these filters eliminate more than 90 percent of waterborne diseases and parasites, and produce up to 60 liters of clean, safe water per hour. Habitat Tajikistan hopes that this project can soon be replicated in other regions of the country.

Key info

Project code: TJ 09002

Where: Kumsangir and Khuroson, Tajikistan.

What: Improve the quality of communities' drinking water through health education, ownership of natural resources and the production of water reservoirs and water filters.

Why: To improve the health and wellness of low-income families.

How much: \$450,449.

To contribute to this project, write a check to HFHI and note project code "TJ 09002" in the memo. Mail checks to HFHI, c/o Finance department. Please also e-mail WBprojectfund@habitat.org and specify you want this to go to project code "TJ 09002."



KIM MACDONALD

Women empowerment through housing

In India, Dalit families are at the lowest end of the country's caste system, and generations of discrimination have left them socially and economically oppressed. With gender inequality most obvious among the lowest-caste families, Dalit women are particularly marginalized—and encounter difficulty establishing rights and accessing education, health and financial resources.

Habitat for Humanity India has helped many of these women form self-help savings groups that have enabled them to create social and economic changes in their communities—and to get involved with Habitat's housing programs. This new project will create 50 new houses, complete with sanitation, in partnership with women-headed families of the Dalit community who are in dire need of safe housing.

The Dalit women targeted to participate in this project are living in a Devanahalli slum community on the outskirts of Bangalore, near the airport there. Families live in dangerous, makeshift houses, and the women and children are

vulnerable to abuse and susceptible to ill health because of the poor sanitation facilities.

As part of the home-construction process, all women will help build their own houses, assist in constructing latrines and receive training in best sanitation and hygiene practices. Thanks to Habitat's partnership with a local NGO, women homeowners will be trained to document their title to the land (enabling asset creation) and generate new sources of income based on their homeownership.

Key info

Project code: IN 09605

Where: Bangalore, India.

What: Create 50 new homes, complete with sanitation, in partnership with women-headed households.

Why: To improve the dignity, safety, health and living conditions of very poor women who serve as heads of households.

How much: \$69,643.

To contribute to this project, write a check to HFHI and note project code "IN 09605" in the memo. Mail checks to HFHI, c/o Finance department. Please also e-mail WBprojectfund@habitat.org and specify you want this to go to project code "IN 09605."



COURTESY OF HABITAT FOR HUMANITY MEXICO

Women moving the world

More than 4.6 million Mexican households are women-headed. In many of these families, the husband has sought work abroad, with hopes that the money he sends home will create a better life for his family left behind. In 65 percent of these cases, the husbands never return and the long-distance support eventually stops.

Habitat for Humanity Mexico's "Women Moving the World" campaign aims to address this vulnerable sector of Mexican society: poor women heads of households and their families living in vulnerable conditions. Without land of their own, many single mothers find themselves living with parents, siblings and other family members in overcrowded, unhealthy conditions.

Habitat Mexico's goal is to provide 300 low-income female-headed households with complete, adequate and healthy houses based on their needs and ability to pay. The homes will also improve the health of children suffering from gastrointestinal and respiratory diseases due to their current living conditions.

In the process, Habitat Mexico also wants to strengthen women's leadership and teamwork skills to allow for their participation in the construction process and their integration to community organizations. These women can gain confidence and become true agents of change in their communities.

Key info

Project code: MX 09004

Where: Thirteen states throughout Mexico.

What: Create 300 new homes for women-headed households and strengthen women's leadership at the community level.

Why: To give these families a better way of life and to help women become agents of change in their communities.

How much: \$868,000.

To contribute to this project, write a check to HFHI and note project code "MX 09004" in the memo. Mail checks to HFHI, c/o Finance department. Please also e-mail WBprojectfund@habitat.org and specify you want this to go to project code "MX 09004."



JAY ASTEROS

Rebuilding Haiti

The earthquake that struck Haiti on Tuesday, Jan. 12, 2010, caused massive loss of lives and destruction of housing and infrastructure. The magnitude-7.0 quake was the most powerful to hit the area in 200 years, its epicenter just 10 miles west of Port-au-Prince, a densely packed urban center of more than 2 million people.

The number of people affected is estimated to be 3.7 million, and Haiti's ambassador to the United States called the quake a "catastrophe of major proportions." It is a major setback for a country where 55 percent of the population lived on less than US\$1 a day even before the earthquake.

Habitat's response in Haiti will include a variety of solutions on the pathway to permanence. Women Build is looking to raise funding to support projects along the way that specifically target female-headed households and youths as priority vulnerable groups for rebuilding programs in Haiti. Women remain among the most affected here because of discrimination, inequalities, violence and poor education.

Overall, Habitat aims to serve 50,000 families over the next five years in Haiti. Interventions will focus on a wide array of housing solutions and capacity-building initiatives to address long-term housing sustainability and community redevelopment.

Key info

Project code: HT 8210003

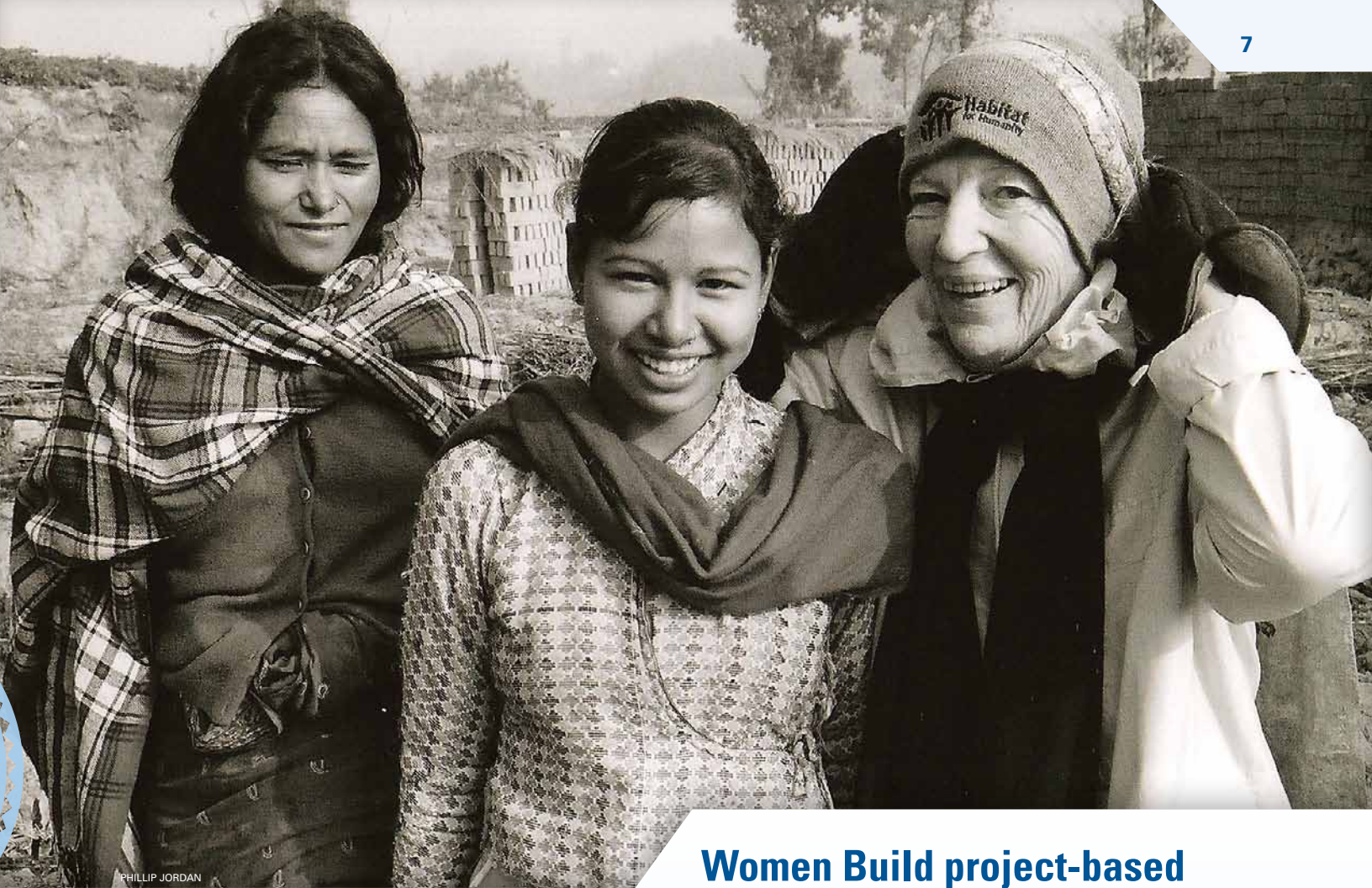
Where: Earthquake-affected regions in Haiti.

What: Helping vulnerable women and youths rebuild their homes and rediscover security, as part of Habitat's pledge to serve 50,000 families in Haiti over the next five years.

Why: Women remain among the most affected here, because of discrimination, inequalities, violence and poor education.

How much: \$250,000.

To contribute to this project, write a check to HFHI and note project code "HT 8210003" in the memo. Mail checks to HFHI, c/o Finance department. Please also e-mail WBprojectfund@habitat.org and specify you want this to go to project code "HT 8210003."



PHILLIP JORDAN

Women Build project-based funding: Global Building Fund

Donating to Women Build's Global Building Fund ensures your contribution goes where it is needed most.

Affiliates and individuals who do not have a preference can make their donation to Women Build's Global Building Fund. Any donations made to the general fund will give Women Build the flexibility to send the money where it is most needed, or would be most effective, at that time.

By funding holistic projects that support women, children and the disadvantaged living in poverty housing, we can make a difference. Donating to Women Build's general fund gives us the flexibility to direct your contributions where they are needed most.

Checks that arrive with no designation in the memo line will also be placed in Women Build's Global Building Fund.

Key info

Project code: S6392

Where: For any of the featured projects listed that is in the most need, or for other projects around the world that HFHI's Women Build program decides to support.

Why: To improve the living situations of families—particularly those projects led by women or assisting vulnerable children.

How much: Ongoing.

To contribute to this general fund, write a check to HFHI and note project code "S6392" in the memo. Mail checks to HFHI, c/o Finance department. Please also e-mail WBprojectfund@habitat.org and specify you want this to go to project code "S6392."

Join the movement. Make a difference around the world.

How to donate to a Women Build-supported international project

Follow these instructions to ensure that your contribution is designated correctly and put to use effectively.

- Decide if you want to fund Women Build's Global Building Fund or if you'd prefer to designate your contribution to a specific project.
- Write a check to HFHI's Finance department, and add "Women Build" and the PBF project code on the memo line of your check. Each project description in this guide has a project code at the end of each entry.
- Checks must be submitted to the Finance department of Habitat for Humanity International. Mail checks to:
Habitat for Humanity International
Finance department
121 Habitat St.
Americus, GA 31709
- After you send your donation, immediately notify HFHI's Women Build program of your contribution through an email to WBprojectfund@habitat.org. Include:
 - Project name and number, or "Global Building Fund" (project code: S6392).
 - Amount of the donation made.
 - Preferred contact information (for receiving updates on supported projects).
- You will receive notification from HFHI's Finance department as soon as your donation has been credited. Women Build will provide quarterly fundraising updates, along with progress updates on our selected projects.
- One hundred percent of your gift will go to the project of your choosing as long as the project needs funding and the receiving country is in good standing.
- If checks arrive with no designation in the memo line, the gifts will automatically be placed in the Global Building Fund.

Contact info

For more info, contact Women Build at 800-422-4828, ext. 7519, or e-mail WBprojectfund@habitat.org. All of these resources—and more—will also be regularly updated on Women Build's My.Habitat site.

Note that these Women Build-selected projects are current as of 2010, but are updated as projects are completed and new needs arise.



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