



# Home Equals: YEAR 2



In just two years, Home Equals has demonstrated what is possible when we work hand in hand with communities living in informal settlements.

Together, we are not only changing policies, but also unlocking opportunity, dignity and potential. Looking ahead to the next three years of the campaign, we are excited to build on our momentum and continue laying the foundation for lasting change.”

**Patrick Canagasingham**  
Chief Operating Officer  
Habitat for Humanity International

# More than **1.1 billion people** live in slums and informal settlements today.

**This number is expected to reach 3 billion by 2050 because of rapid urbanization.** Without action to address the growing global housing crisis, families will continue to live in unsafe conditions with limited access to electricity, clean water and sanitation. We are committed to changing this reality.



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Our impact  
to date =

7.9  
million

people with improved access  
to adequate housing.

65

policy successes influenced  
by Habitat organizations.

\$1.24  
billion

government funds allocated  
toward housing improvements  
(in U.S. dollars).

## The **Home** Equals journey: Year 2

In 2023, Habitat for Humanity launched Home Equals to improve living conditions in slums and informal settlements worldwide. Now active in over 45 countries, this five-year campaign is committed to accelerating locally led advocacy and promoting sustainable policy solutions focused on empowered participation, basic services, climate resilience and tenure security to ensure that everyone has a safe and secure place to call home.

### OUR GOAL:

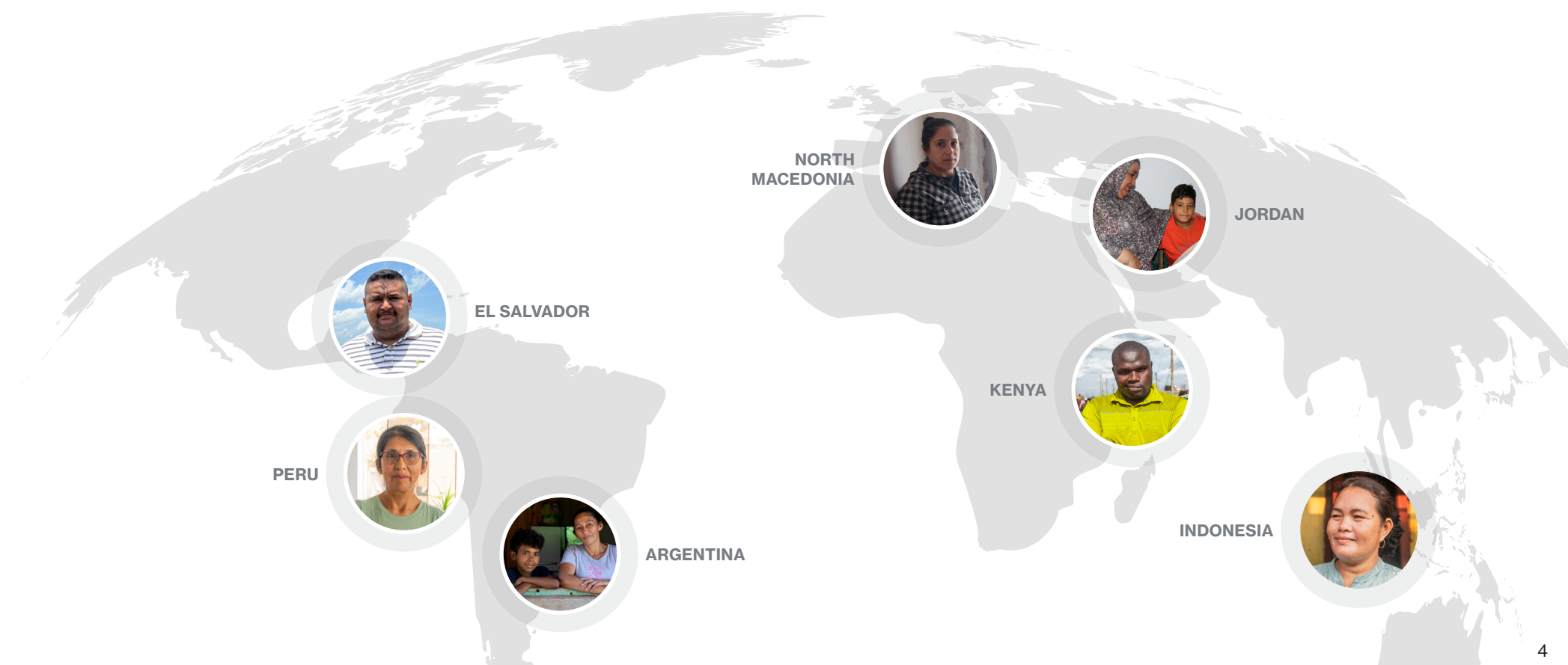
Expand access to adequate housing for 15 million people living in informal settlements.

### WHY ADVOCACY?

We can build thousands of homes each year, but when we change policies, we create access for millions.

## Building beyond the house: A global walkthrough

The Home Equals campaign exemplifies Habitat for Humanity's mission to build homes, communities and hope. The following stories reflect the power of locally led advocacy — and the dedication of communities rising to claim their rights and better futures.





## ◀ Securing land, unlocking opportunity in Indonesia

Komariyah, a mother of three, spent 20 years living in unsafe conditions along the coast of Tanjung Kait. Night after night, she stayed awake to protect her family from dangerous flooding. Now, through advocacy led by Habitat Indonesia, Komariyah's family is one of **110** gaining legal ownership of a safer, more secure home and land.

By working with the local government and a microfinance institution, Habitat Indonesia helped address longstanding challenges to land rights and created a financing program offering small loans that create life-changing impact. To ensure the immediate safety of families living along the flood-prone coast, the government committed over **US\$645,000** to provide temporary housing while new homes are being built, offering much-needed relief from the risks that have threatened them for far too long.

## Strengthening homes and renewing hope in North Macedonia

Almadet, a mother of two, has spent years in a home plagued by leaks, broken windows and mold in the Roma-led municipality of Šuto Orizari, North Macedonia. "When it rains, water pours through our windows," she says. "I am always rolling up the carpets and mopping."

Through support from the Home Equals campaign, her family will receive new doors and windows – simple changes that bring safety, warmth and peace of mind.

Almadet's home is just one of many being improved. Through Habitat Macedonia's advocacy, a newly adopted **Local Action Plan for Housing 2025-27**, backed by **US\$1.1 million** over three years, will bring additional upgrades such as street repairs, clean water and waste management. This will benefit more than **25,700 residents** across Šuto Orizari.





# Working toward space, security and dignity in Jordan

Marka Camp outside Amman, Jordan, was established in 1968 as a temporary refuge for Palestinian families displaced from conflict and is now home to more than 68,000 refugees living in dense, deteriorating conditions. Built on 917 square meters, the settlement now only has room for families to build upward, and residents live in dangerously overcrowded spaces.

Um Abdelrahman, a beloved community matchmaker and resident, lives with the constant risk of her bathroom ceiling collapsing under a rooftop water tank. “The mold is everywhere,” she says. “I do what I can, but it’s not enough.”

Through Home Equals, Habitat Jordan has helped repair **85 homes** and eight community facilities, benefiting more than **13,000 people**. They also are advocating for stronger housing policies and infrastructure improvements to turn fragile shelters into safer homes, restoring dignity and security for thousands more residents like Um Abdelrahman.

# Progress in Peru: A policy shift that puts people first

Madelina has spent 25 years turning a small patch of land into a home in the hillside community of Pamplona Alta on the outskirts of Lima. Without initial access to water or electricity, she and her family built with whatever materials they could find, relying on neighbors for help. “The most difficult thing has been not having professional advice,” she says.

Thanks to the advocacy efforts supported by Habitat’s Terwilliger Center for Innovation in Shelter, more families like Madelina’s will have access to affordable, need-based housing solutions. Peru’s national housing policy now recognizes progressive housing construction as a common practice among low-income families to improve their homes, safely and affordably.

For the first time, **3.7 million people** living in informal settlements across Peru will qualify for government support to build safer, more resilient homes, reducing housing costs by nearly **70%**.





**Manuel's story is a powerful example of the everyday impact of the Home Equals campaign.** Habitat El Salvador continues to collaborate with decision-makers, advocating for bold policy solutions to expand access to clean water for more communities in neighboring municipalities.

## Providing safe water in El Salvador

In El Cuzuquito, a mountain village in El Salvador, water often arrives only a few days a week, if at all. Manuel, a carpenter and iron worker, built his own storage and purification system and shared it with neighbors. But worsening drought and aging infrastructure made it impossible to keep up with the need.

In response, Habitat El Salvador partnered with the Rosario de Mora municipality to install water storage tanks for Manuel and **92 other families**, bringing safer, more reliable water to communities facing the daily strain of water insecurity.

## Broadcasting to inspire action in Kenya

Popular radio host Robert uses his voice to spark change in Mukuru, an informal settlement in Nairobi, Kenya. Born and raised in Mukuru, where most homes are made of corrugated iron and lack access to water and electricity, Robert turns on his mic and leans into his knowledge of journalism to highlight his community's everyday challenges.

He helped rally community support when the government launched an initiative to improve living conditions in Mukuru, saying, "I have seen change in my community. The radio has been able to influence community participation in development."

Thanks to community activation and advocacy by Habitat Kenya and local partners, **16,000 Mukuru residents** now have access to clean water, bringing them closer to having safe, healthy homes.



More than 40 Habitat national organizations and partners united to urge G7 action, backed by supporters from over 100 countries. The message was amplified through briefings, petitions and public awareness to make housing a global development priority.

**WHY TARGET THE G7?**  
The G7 is a group of world leaders capable of driving transformative housing policy and allocating development assistance to help alleviate the global housing crisis.



# Guided by insight, grounded by action

A home is more than four walls and a roof. It's a catalyst for health, safety and prosperity. When people have stable homes, we see reductions in poverty, improvements in health and gains in education.

That's why, before the 2025 G7 Summit, our message to world leaders was simple:

A safe home saves lives. Investing in housing is investing in health, gender equity and brighter futures.

To illustrate our point, Habitat released *Informal Settlement Improvements and Women's Health*, a pivotal report showing the profound effects that improving housing in slums will have on women's health outcomes.

**Just one year of housing investment in informal settlements can save millions of lives and futures:**

- **20.3 million** illnesses in women prevented.
- **42.9 million** gender-based violence incidents averted.
- **1 in 4** maternal deaths avoided.

Habitat's research brought the data to global leaders; Habitat Argentina's work brings it to life.

## Health and Housing in Argentina

Habitat Argentina's Health and Housing program equips families in informal settlements with training, tools and hands-on support to make critical home improvements that directly impact their health and safety.

For Maria Alejandra and her four daughters in Esperanza, access to a proper bathroom was life-changing.

With Habitat's guidance, her family installed safe sanitation facilities, reducing health risks, increasing privacy and giving her daughters a secure space to manage their hygiene with confidence. These types of upgrades are especially vital for women and girls, helping to protect their health and safety every day.



“Having a bathroom meant having dignity,” Maria Alejandra says.

# The impact of investment: Campaign funds and collaborators

Thank you to our campaign collaborators for your steadfast partnership and shared commitment to improving living conditions in informal settlements around the world.

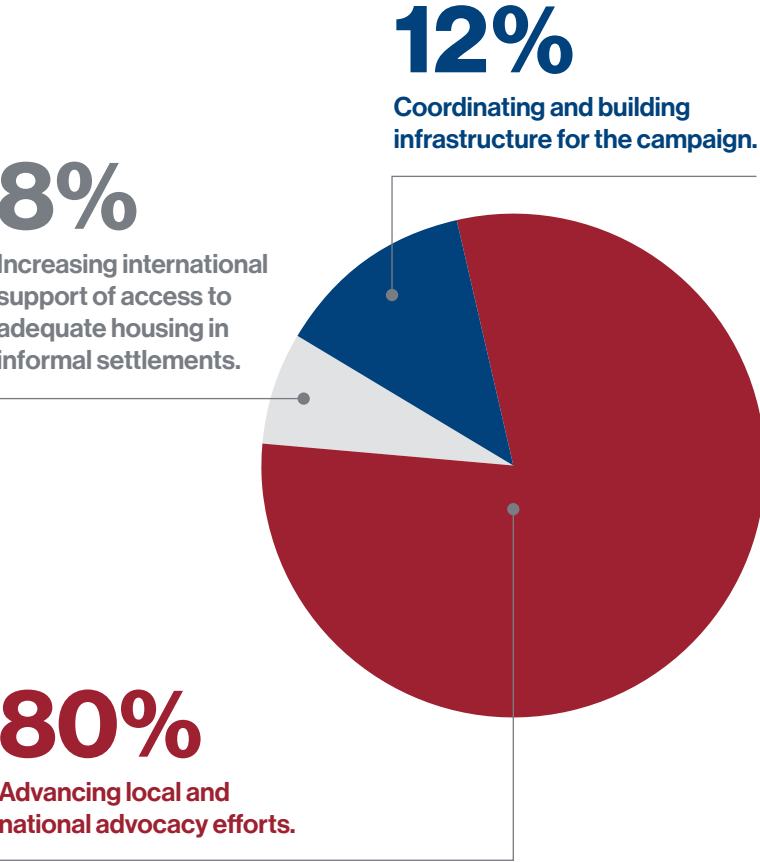
Your support has helped accelerate locally led advocacy, research and community engagement over the past year.

### Campaign endorsers

**Policy advocacy is most effective when we work together. Home Equals endorsers join Habitat in advancing policy changes to support the campaign's goal.**



### How Home Equals funds were used



### Donors

**Thank you to the organizations and individuals whose financial support fuels the Home Equals mission.**

BMZ (German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development)  
Comic Relief  
Dotson Family Fund  
Etex  
Fonds van Zanten  
Harlan Stone  
Liz and Frank Blake  
Northern Trust  
Procter & Gamble  
Techtronic Industries Co. Ltd.  
Turner & Townsend Pte Limited  
Wesco International, Inc.  
Wolff Family Foundation

### Tithe partners

**For more than 40 years, Habitat for Humanity's tithe program has helped fund our global network so that more families can access affordable housing. The following U.S. Habitat organizations have supported Home Equals with their tithe.**

Asheville Area Habitat for Humanity, North Carolina  
Austin Habitat for Humanity, Texas  
Cheboygan County Habitat for Humanity, Michigan  
Chipola Area Habitat for Humanity, Florida  
Dallas Area Habitat for Humanity, Texas  
DuPage and Chicago South Suburbs Habitat for Humanity  
Golden Crescent Habitat for Humanity, Texas  
Greater Charlottesville Habitat for Humanity, Virginia  
Greater Des Moines Habitat for Humanity, Iowa  
Greater Rochester Habitat for Humanity, New York  
Habitat for Humanity Greater Boston, Massachusetts  
Habitat for Humanity Greater San Francisco, California  
Habitat for Humanity Kansas  
Habitat for Humanity MetroWest-Greater Worcester, Massachusetts  
Habitat for Humanity of Broward, Florida  
Habitat for Humanity of Grand County, Colorado  
Habitat for Humanity of Greater Cincinnati, Ohio  
Habitat for Humanity of Greater Memphis, Tennessee  
Habitat for Humanity of Greater Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania  
Habitat for Humanity of Lincoln County, Oregon  
Habitat for Humanity of Long Island, New York  
Habitat for Humanity of Metro Denver, Colorado  
Habitat for Humanity of Minnesota  
Habitat for Humanity of Northwest Harris County, Texas  
Habitat for Humanity of Oregon  
Habitat for Humanity of the Sandhills, North Carolina  
Habitat for Humanity of Washington, D.C., and Northern Virginia  
Habitat for Humanity Orange County, North Carolina  
Habitat for Humanity Susquehanna, Maryland  
Habitat for Humanity Texas  
Habitat for Humanity Williamson-Maury, Tennessee  
Houston Habitat for Humanity, Texas  
Loudon County Habitat for Humanity, Tennessee  
Milwaukee Habitat for Humanity, Wisconsin  
Richmond Metropolitan Habitat for Humanity, Virginia  
Solano-Napa Habitat for Humanity, California  
St. Croix Valley Habitat for Humanity, Wisconsin  
Tres Rios Habitat for Humanity, New Mexico



**When people have safe, stable homes,**  
poverty declines, health improves and futures brighten.



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