

Argentina

Habitat for Humanity in Argentina

Habitat for Humanity invites people to build homes, communities and hope, and thus show God's love in action. To learn more about our work, visit: www.hpha.org.ar

The housing need in Argentina

Argentina has a housing deficit of about 3 million homes. This deficit increases at a rate of approximately 36,000 homes per year. In addition, of 12.2 million total households, 16 percent correspond to rental housing, which is equivalent to about 2 million families.

Migratory movements, limited scope of social housing programs and mortgage credit shortage are factors that influence the problem of housing shortage in Argentina, which is compounded by the significant increase in land prices in recent years.

Argentinean families who lack decent housing first need to have access to secure land. Without this access, communities are forced to live in informal settlements that are difficult to legalize in the future. It is important to understand that access to safe land is vital for building decent homes and neighborhoods.

Habitat's contribution in Argentina

We are a Christian organization that promotes access to adequate housing for the most vulnerable populations. Through our projects, we offer families living in inadequate conditions the opportunity to manage a comprehensive solution to their housing problem. We also promote human and community development to ensure a sustainable solution over time. These solutions can be: loans to build or improve housing; legal technical assistance including for self-assisted building; and regulated rents.



COUNTRY FACTS*

Capital	Buenos Aires
Date of independence or creation of the state	1816
Population	40.3 million*
Urbanization (percentage of people in cities vs. rural zones)	92%*
Life expectancy	75.66 years*
Unemployment rate	7.5% (2014)
Percent of the population living below the poverty line	28.7%

*Sources: Census 2010

HABITAT FACTS

Date when Habitat started working in the country	2002
Individuals served in FY16	855
Volunteers hosted in FY16	843
Housing Solutions	New, Incrementals, Repairs



Our programs

Neighborhood Development

This project facilitates the housing production process and strengthens the capacities of urban neighborhoods. It is carried out in the provinces of Buenos Aires and Santa Fe and includes a strong volunteerism element.

Urban solutions

This project focuses on families who pay rent in informal tenements, tenancies and pension hotels. The "Protected Rent" project is carried out by recycling urban spaces and through workshops and guarantees, advocating the right to an adequate rent.

Gran Chaco

This project improves homes in a very poor area of the country as is the Gran Chaco in northern Argentina. It also includes a strong volunteerism component.

Meet a Habitat family

Elizabeth Rodriguez shares her housing situation prior to having access to rent with Habitat Argentina's support in the Estela de Esperanzas (Trail of Hope) building. This building was renovated by donors, companies and volunteers within the framework of the Recycling Urban Homes project.

"I lived in a tiny space, with high humidity, which barely had room for a closet and an external bathroom shared with eight other families. For the shower and the bathroom you had to take turns or you had to get up early." Elizabeth remembers the number of uses she gave to the room: "It was a place to study, kitchen, dining room and bedroom, an all-in-one environment." While the tenement was damp and overcrowded, it was harder for them to find other

What can you do?

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

DONATE

<http://bit.ly/1pY43JQ>

VOLUNTEER

Join one of Habitat's Global Village volunteer trips scheduled to Argentina or organize your own brigade. For more information, go to:

www.habitat.org/gv/catalog/lac

If you are interested in international volunteering with Habitat Argentina for a period of three months or more, write to:

oficinacional@hpha.org.ar

HABITAT'S OFFICE

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options: "It was very difficult to find another place because I was working informally and did not have a regular paycheck," said Elizabeth.

Elizabeth tells what her new home and life mean to her family: "This building is a place to rest, where we have the possibility of each being in our own room, having our personal space. A place where we live happily, without dampness or odors, with air to breathe."



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