

Guatemala

Habitat for Humanity Guatemala

Habitat for Humanity Guatemala is a nonprofit organization that aims to improve the quality of life of Guatemalan families through partial or full funding for the construction, improvement and repair of homes across the country. For more information, visit: www.habitatguate.org/eng

The housing need in Guatemala

According to the Central American Association for Housing (Asociación Centroamericana para la Vivienda - ACENVI), the housing deficit in Guatemala exceeds 1.6 million households, including inadequate, rented and overcrowded housing. In addition, the need for basic services such as drinking water, sanitation, electricity and safe stoves in rural areas is very high.

Habitat's contribution in Guatemala

Habitat Guatemala has contributed to the reduction of 4.6 percent of the country's housing deficit, both qualitative and quantitative. Our commitment is that all Guatemalans have a decent place to live. Until December 2015, Habitat Guatemala has helped a total of 86,304 families, with construction, improvement and home repairs.



COUNTRY FACTS*

Capital	Guatemala City
Date of independence or creation of the state	Sept. 15, 1821
Population	16,771,248
Urbanization (percentage of people in cities vs. rural zones)	48.5%*
Life expectancy	71.66 years **
Unemployment rate	2.7%***
Percent of the population living below the poverty line	54%

* Source: LSMS, 2011

** Source: World Bank, 2012

*** Source: ECLAC, 2013

HABITAT FACTS

Date when Habitat started working in the country
1979

Individuals served in FY16
51,285

Volunteers hosted in FY16
25,544

Housing Solutions
New, Rehab, Repairs, Improvements



Our programs

Volunteerism

1. Local: These are volunteers from local committees who promote community development and represent Habitat in their communities.
2. National Construction: These are groups of people who have the desire to support families in the construction process. This opportunity is open to educational institutions, businesses, organizations, embassies, individuals, etc.
3. International Construction: These are groups of between 8 and 80 international volunteers that donate their time and energy, typically for 5 days, 8 hours a day. Without their support, the families would have to bear the cost of unskilled labor.

Financing for housing

Funding for families is more accessible than the traditional one found in the national financial system, with affordable installments, few requirements and ease of payments.

Healthy Homes

Habitat Guatemala supports families to build, improve or repair their homes, meeting national quality standards and those proposed by Habitat for Humanity International. Monitoring of the construction process by trained personnel is also offered. Quality materials and structural systems that comply with the rules of AGIES (Guatemalan Association of Structural Engineer) and ICCG (Institute of Cement and Concrete of Guatemala) are used.

Extreme poverty

This program supports communities and families living in extreme poverty by providing partial subsidies to access products that improve their quality of life, this includes: improved stoves, ventilated pit latrines, water purifiers, water filters and training to prepare families for homeownership.

Meet a Habitat family

For more than 12 years, the Roman family rented a house and eventually had the opportunity to buy land. Unfortunately their happiness was overshadowed when they were evicted from their rented home. Without a place to move, the Roman family found a small cave near their lot and made the difficult decision to live in it. For 12 months, the family found shelter in this cave. The Baja Verapaz affiliate was notified of this case, and began the process of construction, which had the support of more than 25 volunteers, family and friends, who in record time completed the construction. Now the Roman family has decent housing, knowing that with their effort and daily work, they can continue to improve their quality of

life and thrive. "I am happy because I have my house, my children have a place to spend the night, we no longer sleep outside, and we no longer sleep in a cave. Thank you to Habitat Guatemala, I will never forget how much they helped us," said Juliana.

What can you do?

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

DONATE

<https://www.habitatguate.org/payment/>
www.habitatguate.org

VOLUNTEER

Join one of Global Village's scheduled trips to Guatemala or organize your own brigade.

For more information, go to: habitat.org/gv/catalog/lac

HABITAT'S OFFICE

To learn more about Habitat's programs in Guatemala, please contact:

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