Habitat for Humanity



Habitat for Humanity in

Malawi



Habitat for Humanity started working in Malawi in 1986

We currently work in Lilongwe, Mulanje, Zomba, Mzuzu, Blantyre and Dedza regions.

We have partnered with over 200,000 families to date.

Population	Housing need	National poverty rate	Life expectancy
22 million	21,000 units annually	71.7% of population	68 years

Sources: World Bank; Malawi Population and Housing Census; ILO.

The housing need in Malawi

Safe, affordable and resilient housing remains a pressing development priority in Malawi. According to the 2018 Population and Housing Census, 58.9% of the country's 4.8 million housing units are substandard. Many are constructed with mud walls and grass-thatched roofs, leaving families exposed to weather, health and safety risks.

Meeting current housing demand will require an estimated 21,000 new homes annually over a 10-year period. Habitat for Humanity Malawi responds through an integrated approach that combines direct housing support with basic services, disaster resilience, skills development and housing systems strengthening.

How Habitat addresses the need (2025-2030)

Improve housing, essential services, climate resilience and disaster recovery

- 12,000 people supported through adequate housing {800 new homes and 1,600 repairs or upgrades}
- Three informal settlements set to be upgraded
- 7,200 artisans to be trained
- 300,000 people to be reached with basic services

Strengthening housing markets and policies

- Improve housing market performance for 1 million people
- Advance policy reforms benefiting 2 million people
- Expanded access to housing finance products and services
- Generate evidence and research to inform housing policy

During fiscal year 2026

We served 6, 270 people through

New construction	**170**
Incremental construction	**5,950**
Repairs	**150**
Volunteers engaged	**328**

Volunteer engagement

Habitat for Humanity Malawi engages both local and international volunteers as hearts, hands and voices for adequate housing. The programme is inclusive and intergenerational, welcoming participants aged 15 and above, with appropriate supervision and tasks to ensure meaningful and safe participation.

Since the Global Village volunteer programme resumed in 2024, Habitat Malawi has hosted **18 international teams and 251 Global Village volunteers**, whose time, skills, in-kind support and financial contributions have helped build **37 homes** in Lilongwe and Mulanje. Through the Home Equals project in Mzuzu, **60 local volunteers** have also contributed their time and skills to support Habitat's work.

Innovation spotlight: Timange Ecobuild

Malawi's housing deficit and the environmental impact of wood-fired bricks highlight the need for affordable, lower-impact building materials. Established by Habitat for Humanity Malawi, Timange Ecobuild is a social enterprise producing Soil Stabilised Blocks, interlocking blocks, pavers and concrete blocks while building practical skills in sustainable construction.

Before its commercial registration, the initiative produced more than 120,000 Soil Stabilised Blocks and 22,000 concrete blocks, with materials contributing to 45 homes for families displaced by Cyclone Freddy in Mulanje.

Habitat for Humanity Malawi will integrate Timange Ecobuild's environmentally friendly materials into its housing programmes while the enterprise grows as a profit-generating social enterprise supporting its long-term sustainability.

What you can do

Donate

The estimated cost of implementing our Strategic Plan 2025-2030 is USD 25–28 million. Please visit habitat.org/donate and select "Designate your donation" to Habitat Malawi.

Tithe

Habitat affiliates in the U.S. can establish a tithe partnership to help build houses. Write Malawi on checks sent to: Habitat for Humanity International, Attn: Affiliate Tithe, 322 West Lamar St., Americus, GA 31709. For additional information, email tithe@habitat.org

Volunteer

Through Global Village, a short-term international volunteer experience, partner with local communities on sustainable housing solutions.
Please visit habitat.org/gv for more information and updates.

Home is the foundation for health, livelihoods and resilience. Together, we can help more families in Malawi access safe, affordable and climate resilient housing.

Connect with Habitat for Humanity Malawi

Address
Area 14, Plot 14/206, Off Presidential Drive,
Red Cross Turn. Email: info@habitat.mw

Phone
+265 (0) 887 094 812

Website
www.habitat.mw

Habitat for Humanity Malawi | @hfh_malawi | @HFHMalawi | Habitat for Humanity Malawi

LAST UPDATED: 10/1/2026