



Country profile

China Mainland

The housing need in China

Despite China's rapid growth and its commitment to poverty alleviation, the problem of inadequate housing persists in the world's second-largest economy. As of 2019, official records showed more than 1.35 million rural families were living in houses classified as dangerous while 30 million urban dwellers were considered poor.

In rural areas, low-income families typically live in houses made of mud bricks that are unable to withstand disasters. They also lack clean drinking water and/or safe sanitation. In urban centers, buildings and community infrastructure constructed between 1950s and 1990s have started to deteriorate. Worn-out wiring, moldy walls and squat toilets make living conditions particularly challenging for older people, children and people with illness and disability.



HABITAT FACTS:

- Habitat started in China in 2002.
- **Individuals served in FY2019** – 1,685
 - Through new construction – 445
 - Through incremental building – 1,120
 - Through repairs – 120
- **Volunteers hosted in FY2019** – 1,029

COUNTRY FACTS:

Capital city – Beijing
Population – 1.39 billion
Life expectancy – 76.1 years
Unemployment rate – 3.9%
Below poverty line – 3.3%

How Habitat addresses the need

Community revitalization

Many low-income urban families live in crowded spaces and face safety and health risks ranging from tangled wires to cracked and moldy walls and ceilings. Habitat helps vulnerable groups including older people and families with members who are ill to renovate their kitchens, toilets, floors and ceilings. Habitat China also supports migrant workers' children, older people and those with disabilities by upgrading public and educational facilities in low-income communities. The work included renovating corridors, turning dilapidated spaces into community gardens, and renovating kindergartens or schools as well as centers that cater to those with special needs.

Rural home construction

Since Habitat began working in China 18 years ago, it has been partnering with rural families to rebuild or repair their homes that have become dangerous to live in. To improve hygiene standards, Habitat builds water facilities as well as community and household toilets in villages. Training in construction skills and safety awareness may also be provided to local masons and villagers to build up their capacity. In addition, Habitat helps rural families to build back better following disasters.

Volunteer engagement

Volunteers who are mostly from mainland China work alongside future homeowners to build decent homes in Guangdong, Sichuan and Shanghai. In the financial year ended June 30, 2019, Habitat China hosted 1,029 volunteers including those from Hong Kong and Japan.

What you can do

DONATE

In Hong Kong: habitat.hk.give.asia/donate2china

In the U.S.: habitat.org/donate*

**To donate to Habitat China, click on "Designate your donation to a location or cause."*

VOLUNTEER

Join one of the scheduled Global Village trips to China or lead your own. For more information go to: habitat.org/gv

TITHE

Establish a strong and rewarding tithe partnership to help build houses globally! Write CHINA on your checks sent to: Habitat for Humanity International, Attn: Affiliate Tithe, 121 Habitat St. Americus, GA 31709

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