



## Country profile

# Côte d'Ivoire

### The housing need in Côte d'Ivoire

The cumulative housing deficit in Côte d'Ivoire was estimated at 600,000 units in 2015. In the country's major urban center of Abidjan alone, the housing deficit is estimated from 40,000 units per year.

In rural areas, 90% people live in temporary structures, which require extensive upkeep and repair and are vulnerable to fire. Walls are typically made of mud in a wooden frame and often crack, causing leaks and eventually falling apart. Thatch-roof houses harbor numerous disease-carrying insects, such as malarial mosquitoes and the tsetse fly, which can spread eye disease. The lack of latrines and water facilities was found to be a major challenge. Only 18.1% of the households possess a pit latrine, and 92.5% of households used unsafe drinking water (MICS 2016).



#### HABITAT FACTS:

- Habitat started in Côte d'Ivoire in 1999.
- **Individuals served in FY2019 – 45,320**
  - Through incremental building – 45,320
- **Volunteers hosted in FY 2019 – 940**

#### COUNTRY FACTS:

**Capital** -- Yamoussoukro  
**Population** -- 23.1 million  
**Life expectancy** -- 58 years  
**Unemployment rate** -- 6.9%  
**Below poverty line** -- 46.3%

# How Habitat addresses the need

## Major programs

Habitat Côte d'Ivoire's work focuses on water, sanitation and hygiene; community-led total sanitation; Orphans and Vulnerable Groups housing; "Save and Build" houses; and advocacy for land property.

We work with local government departments and community members to provide sustainable solutions to housing needs, access to clean water and solutions to livelihood challenges.

Access to proper sanitation is essential as the prevalent lack of safe water reduces school attendance and compromises health for children. Also in schools, many disabled children do not drink or even eat all day to avoid going to improper toilet facilities.

## Home construction

Many families live in mud houses or crumbling old structures. Most have leaking roofs and broken or cracked walls, which cannot keep out tropical downpours that recur during the rainy season. Habitat Côte d'Ivoire helps build houses and latrines using appropriate technology and local building materials. The designs are simple and spacious and cater to the individual families' needs, while remaining affordable for the homeowners. Houses consist of two or three bedrooms and a hall.

Recently, 12 smaller houses were built (another 19 are planned) with soil blocks in order to help vulnerable families. Côte d'Ivoire has one of the highest rates of adult HIV in West Africa, estimated at 3.7%. The number of orphans and vulnerable children in the country because of HIV/AIDS in adults is estimated at 440,000.

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## What you can do

### DONATE

Go to [habitat.org/donate](https://www.habitat.org/donate) and designate your gift to Habitat Côte d'Ivoire.

### VOLUNTEER

Join a Habitat Global Village construction team to help communities and families in need of proper housing. Contact [gv.emea@habitat.org](mailto:gv.emea@habitat.org) to learn more.

### TITHE

All U.S. Habitat affiliate tithe gifts are sent internationally to serve families outside of the United States. To support our work, U.S. affiliates can designate Côte d'Ivoire on checks and send their tithe to: Habitat for Humanity International P.O. Box 6598 Americus, GA 31709-3498.

### CONTACT

To learn more about Habitat projects in Côte d'Ivoire, please contact us at [hfhci@habitatci.org](mailto:hfhci@habitatci.org)