



## Country profile

# El Salvador

## The housing need in El Salvador

El Salvador is the smallest and most densely populated country in the Central American region. It is also one of the world's most disaster-prone countries, according to the country's Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources. Over 88% of the territory is at risk while a vast majority of the population, or 95.4%, lives in those areas.

Eight out of 10 Salvadorans live in inadequate conditions, according to an INCAE and Habitat for Humanity 2016 study. Based on data from the 2022 Multipurpose Household Survey, 39% of households nationwide live in overcrowded conditions. Many of these families do not have access to sanitation, clean water, education, financing to improve their homes, secure tenure of their property, or the opportunity to live in a safe, healthy and stable place.

## HABITAT FACTS

- Habitat began working in El Salvador in 1992
- **Individuals served in FY2025: 106 322**
  - Through new construction: 2 170
  - Through rehab construction: 195
  - Through repairs: 4 095
  - Through incremental building: 14 645
  - Through professional services: 17 100
- **Volunteers engaged in FY2025: 2 536**



## COUNTRY FACTS

**Capital city:** San Salvador  
**Population:** 6,3 millions  
**Life expectancy:** 71 years  
**Unemployment rate:** 5%  
**Below the multidimensional poverty line:** 26%

# How Habitat addresses the need

## **Building homes and communities**

Habitat El Salvador builds affordable homes and enables families to make housing improvements, depending on their needs. Furthermore, each project is carried out in accordance with the national and international construction standards with three funding modalities: credit; credit subsidy; and subsidy.

## **Risk management and disaster response**

Together with the authorities, partners, and communities, we carry out humanitarian response interventions through the rehabilitation and construction of housing (permanent or temporary), as well as the distribution of kits to vulnerable families affected by different natural disasters, and the provision of disaster relief supplies to municipalities and communities.

## **Green housing program**

In order to provide low-income housing with bioclimatic design elements, we have implemented research initiatives to add renewable energy technologies, efficiency systems, and comfort in housing. This is with the support of national and international partners, affiliates, academia, international cooperation, and the private sector, among others.

## **Community project development**

Our projects strengthen the development of communities in a comprehensive, innovative, and resilient way. Thanks to the support of volunteers and local and international partners, we reach more families through initiatives aimed at children, women household leaders as well as communities through income generation and other interventions.

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# What you can do

## **DONATE**

Donate at [www.habitat.sv/donacion](http://www.habitat.sv/donacion)

## **VOLUNTEER**

Through Global Village, a short-term international volunteer experience, partner with local communities on sustainable housing solutions. Contribute to Habitat's vision where everyone has a decent place to live. Please visit [habitat.org/gv](http://habitat.org/gv) for more information and updates.

## **TITHE**

Habitat affiliates in the U.S. support the international work through an annual tithe. For additional information, email [tithe@habitat.org](mailto:tithe@habitat.org) or contact your local Habitat organization.

## **CONTACT**

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