

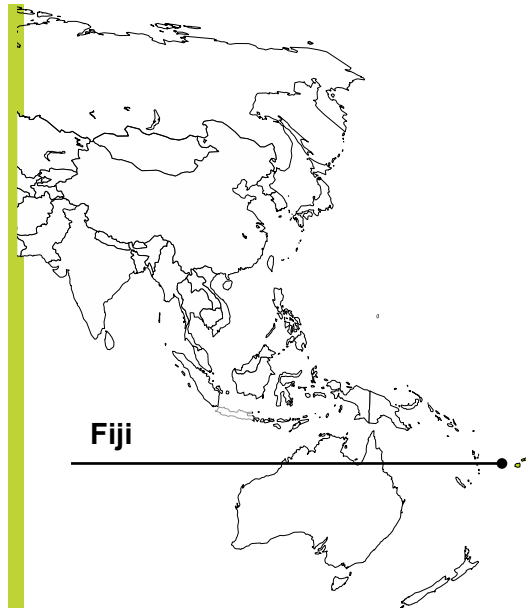


Country profile

Fiji

The housing need in Fiji

The lack of affordable housing and land packages has contributed to the growth of informal settlements around Nadi and the capital of Suva, according to the International Finance Corporation. It is estimated that 14 percent of the Fijian population now lives in informal settlements with limited infrastructure and access to essential services such as water and electricity. Fiji is vulnerable to disasters and the damage caused by cyclones in the past highlights the need for affordable housing which is both climate-resilient and energy-efficient. For almost three decades, Habitat for Humanity Fiji has partnered with over 100,000 people to build better lives through repairs and temporary housing after disasters, new or improved water and sanitation systems in rural and remote areas, and housing projects for people with disabilities.



COUNTRY FACTS:

Capital city – Suva
Population – over 883,400
Life expectancy – 67.4 years
Unemployment rate – 4.5%
Below poverty line – 34%

HABITAT FACTS:

- Habitat started in Fiji in 1991.
- **Individuals served in FY2019** – 285
 - Through new construction – 265
 - Through incremental building – 20
- **Volunteers engaged in FY2019** – 950

How Habitat addresses the need

Community water projects

Since its WASH program began in 2010, Habitat Fiji has been constructing or improving water and sanitation systems in rural and remote communities. Funding support comes from bilateral donors such as UNICEF, Japanese Embassy and Australia's Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade and New Zealand Aid through the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade. Habitat trains the local communities to manage and conserve water resources and maintain water systems that have been installed. The program has assisted more than 5,000 families in close to 100 communities to date.

Disaster response and resilience

Habitat Fiji is part of the Pacific Task Force together with Habitat Australia and Habitat New Zealand, helping families hit by disasters such as 2015's Cyclone Pam in Vanuatu. In its response to 2016's Cyclone Winston, Habitat exceeded its target by helping over 7,000 affected families through the distribution of emergency shelter kits. Programs in the recovery phase include community-based water, sanitation and hygiene training, cyclone retrofitting for homes, repairs and construction of houses and water and sanitation facilities, and 'Build Back Safer' training. In May 2019, Habitat partnered with the Fiji Shelter Cluster to launch the first country-specific tool for the coordination of shelter response. The *Fiji Shelter Handbook: Inclusive and Accessible Shelter Planning for Fijian Communities* was developed with the support of the Australian government through Habitat Australia.

Volunteer engagement

In the fiscal year ended June 30, 2019, Habitat Fiji hosted 242 Global Village volunteers who helped construct 18 homes. On International Volunteer Day, December 5, 2019, Fijian youth from Muanikoso Village kicked off the 2020 Habitat Young Leaders Build by working on a house renovation. The HYL B volunteers were supported by Habitat Fiji's long-term donor Aqua Pacific.

What you can do

DONATE

USD \$: [habitat.org/donate](https://www.habitat.org/donate)

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

VOLUNTEER

Join one of the scheduled Global Village trips to Fiji or lead your own. For more information go to: [habitat.org/gv](https://www.habitat.org/gv)

TITHE

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

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