



Mandaue City, Cebu
Photo Courtesy: Rogene Ygay



Country profile

Philippines

The housing need in the Philippines

The lack of adequate housing can be seen as a glaring inequality in the Philippines. The massive housing backlog stands at 6.5 million units. If left unaddressed, the deficit could balloon to 22 million units by 2040, according to the Department of Human Settlements and Urban Development. In the Metro Manila region, over 4 million Filipinos live in poor housing conditions, made worse by the COVID-19 pandemic and disasters. The Philippines experiences frequent seismic activity and about 20 tropical cyclones a year. Since 1988, Habitat Philippines and its multi-sectoral partners have worked with over 150,000 families to build or repair homes, improve access to basic social services, and build resilience and empowerment. Habitat has also partnered with over 800,000 families to improve their housing through financial services.

HABITAT FACTS:

- Habitat started in the Philippines in 1988.
- **Individuals served in FY2022 – 950,870**
 - Through new construction – 840
 - Through incremental construction – 835
 - Through repairs – 150
 - Through market development – 949,045
- **Volunteers engaged in FY2022 – 912**



COUNTRY FACTS:

Capital city – Manila
Population – 116.4 million
Life expectancy – 72 years
Unemployment rate – 4.8%
Poverty rate – 13.2%

How Habitat addresses the need

Building safe, secure and resilient homes

As part of the flagship Negros Occidental Impact 2025 project, we build disaster-resilient homes with families in Negros Occidental province by leveraging on public-private-people partnerships and using the cement bamboo frame technology of Base Bahay Foundation with the support of the Hilti Foundation. Through urban renewal or in-city resettlement, Habitat works with local governments to address housing needs of informal settlement residents. In Valenzuela City, 334 low-income families will gain access to safe, decent, affordable homes and a sustainable community.

Empowering families, communities to RISE

Under the Resilient, Inclusive, Sustainable, Empowered, or RISE, Communities Program, families are empowered through forming a homeowners' association. With Habitat's support, the families build capacity and skills in financial literacy, livelihood, water, sanitation and hygiene and waste management. We also partner with Germany's Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development, or BMZ, to provide free construction-related training to help individuals secure multiple national-level certifications and opening better job opportunities.

Boosting disaster preparedness, resilience, and recovery

With shelter as our core competency, Habitat helps rebuild homes and lives of disaster-affected families in the hardest hit communities. Through its Disaster Response Program, Habitat together with its donors and partners have supported 2,081 families affected by Typhoon Rai, one of the strongest storms in the world in 2021. The interventions range from distributing hygiene, sanitation, and household kits and shelter repair assistance to permanent housing solutions and construction and repair of community infrastructure. Habitat also helps improve the communities' disaster preparedness by conducting community-based disaster risk reduction management training and build back safer orientation.

Inclusive housing markets through innovation

In Philippines, Habitat's Terwilliger Center for Innovation in Shelter partners with building materials companies to help families who build homes incrementally. The Terwilliger Center also engages in sector research such as a walling and foundation study and an analysis of the housing journey of low-income households in Cebu province. Through the Terwilliger Center's media partnerships, households could learn about home improvement tips and practices via a program on an online news portal and a home makeover reality show.

What you can do

DONATE

Please donate via habitat.org.ph/donatenow/ or go to habitat.org/donate and select "Designate your donation" to donate to Habitat Philippines.

VOLUNTEER

Under the Global Village program, builds have resumed in select locations in Asia and the Pacific. Please visit 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 or contact your local Habitat organization.

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