



Country profile

Romania

The housing need in Romania

Romania has the highest rate of housing deprivation among all countries in the European Union, according to [a statement](#) made on behalf of the Romanian government to the United Nations. Poor and marginalized groups, in both urban and rural areas, face serious challenges in the housing sector, including low quality housing, inadequate infrastructure, and lack of tenure security, particularly in the case of informal settlements. Housing unaffordability is strongly linked to low-income households living in the worst conditions and spending a higher share of their income on housing expenses. Official data showed that 36% of the population is at risk of poverty and social exclusion and three in 10 Romanians are affected by housing issues such as overcrowding or lack of adequate sanitary facilities.



HABITAT FACTS:

- Habitat started in Romania in 1996.
- **Individuals served in FY2022 – 5,890**
 - Through new construction – 50
 - Through rehabs – 665
 - Through repairs – 20
 - Through market development – 5,155
- **Volunteers hosted in FY2022 – 329**

COUNTRY FACTS:

- Capital city** – Bucharest
- Population** – 19 million
- Life expectancy** – 74 years
- Unemployment rate** – 5.60%
- Below poverty line** – 24%

How Habitat addresses the need

Affordable housing

Habitat for Humanity Romania builds and renovates homes in partnership with low-income families throughout the country. This ranges from single house builds to accelerated builds of more houses in just five days. Rehabilitation work is aimed at improving living conditions of families through several types of interventions.

Disaster risk reduction and response

Thousands of families are displaced following disasters such as floods, earthquakes, fires and landslides or conflicts such as the Russia-Ukraine war. Over the years, Habitat Romania has helped more than 50,000 people through our disaster risk reduction and response programs. Recently, we are supporting people who have fled from Ukraine in accessing safe, secure housing in Romania.

Advocacy and awareness raising

Habitat Romania serves as a voice for people in need of decent homes by working to change laws and shape policies that affect access to housing. Our advocacy approach is based on decades of on-the-ground experience. Advocating for sustainable and inclusive policies and systems that promote access to safe and affordable housing is key to achieving Habitat's vision of a world where everyone has a decent place to live.

Sustainable communities

Habitat Romania builds stronger communities along with volunteers and partners. In partnership with local authorities, companies and other nongovernmental organizations, we build or rehabilitate educational centers, community centers, schools, day-care centers and other facilities.

What you can do

DONATE

Every donation helps a family build a better life through housing. Please contact us to find out how you can contribute to our building projects through donations of cash or building materials. You may also visit [habitat.org/donate](https://www.habitat.org/donate) and select "Designate your donation" to donate to Habitat Romania.

VOLUNTEER

The Global Village program is resuming region by region until a safe and quality experience can be provided at scale worldwide. Please visit [habitat.org/gv](https://www.habitat.org/gv) for more information.

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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