828 million people worldwide live in slums.
Millions more live in substandard conditions in rural areas.

Capital required to close the gap between demand and supply of affordable and adequate housing (as estimated by McKinsey & Company).

Lack of access to housing finance contributes significantly to this housing gap. Low-income families whose livelihoods come from the informal economy often lack the income proof and credit history required to be eligible for a mortgage loan.

Key takeaways

- A human-centered design approach, coupled with feasibility and viability analysis, helps ensure low-income housing finance solutions are client-centric and scalable.
- Product development and management are iterative processes, and product prototyping and testing exercises are essential for a product-market fit.
- The intersection of finance and technology leads to innovative business models that can rapidly increase housing finance access.

Must-haves for sustainable housing finance solutions

- Capital availability and access to long-term capital.
- Adherence to consumer protection principles in the design and delivery of solutions.
- Financial solutions that can be bundled with nonfinancial services, such as consumer education on construction practices that can lead to improved housing quality.

About

ShelterTech is the world’s leading platform for affordable housing innovation. Find out more and join our ecosystem at shelter-tech.org.