



February, 2014

Orphans, widows and other vulnerable groups have few opportunities to escape poverty and often suffer the most when disasters strike.

Yet studies show that the stability of a safe home helps children thrive in communities. And women with secure property rights to their own home provide secure futures for their families.

Habitat for Humanity is making a difference in the lives of vulnerable groups through Africa and Eastern Europe.

You can help make that happen. Let's choose action.

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[A transformation of the most fundamental kind](#)

Habitat projects in Romania build homes with orphans who never knew the stability of their own home. Daniel Szentmiklosi from Oradea is one of the beneficiaries of such a program.



[Widows' rights to inherit property](#)

Most women in Uganda, in particular widows, face challenges with the heritage of property once their spouses die. Is it possible to solve their problems?



[Providing market-based affordable housing solutions](#)

Habitat aims to increase the amount of housing microfinance loans from 2 to 10 percent, a shift that can help nearly 15 million households. A partnership with the Hilti Foundation is one of the steps in this direction.



[Children draw happy and safe homes for Poland](#)

Habitat for Humanity Poland uses social media to raise awareness and engage young people in the country. It invited children from three schools to take part in an art competition through Facebook.

News in Brief

Four years after the Haiti disaster

Habitat's five-year disaster recovery program, aimed at helping more than 50,000 families or approximately 250,000 individuals in Port-au-Prince, Léogâne and Cabaret, was completed two years ahead of schedule. However, Habitat [continues its work](#) in Haiti.

Habitat to start rebuilding after the Philippines typhoon

On January 16, 2014, Habitat signed a [Memorandum of Agreement](#) with the Philippine government's National Housing Authority and the City of Tacloban for a rebuilding project following Typhoon Haiyan. Habitat plans to build 852 houses in partnership with families that lost their homes.

Three myths about global poverty

Philanthropists Bill and Melinda Gates argue that [three misconceptions](#) block progress for the world's poor and call foreign aid a phenomenal investment that is transforming the world.

You may be cool too

Check out the [Facebook invitation](#) to the Blue Sky Build 2014 in Mongolia. International volunteers will gather to build 15 energy-efficient homes in the capital Ulaanbaatar.

Building in Kyrgyzstan

Join a team of volunteers to build homes in Kyrgyzstan. [Yurt Build](#) takes place on **June 19-27, 2014**. Sign up now!

Habitat and Social Media

Find us on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) and [Pinterest](#). Tell the world about your volunteer trips and experience!

Habitat for Humanity International's vision is a world where everyone has a decent place to live. Anchored by the conviction that housing provides a critical foundation for breaking the cycle of poverty, Habitat has helped more than 4 million people construct, rehabilitate or preserve homes since 1976. Habitat also

advocates to improve access to decent and affordable shelter and supports a variety of funding models that enable families with limited resources to make needed improvements on their homes as their time and resources allow. As a nonprofit Christian housing organization, Habitat works in more than 70 countries and welcomes people of all races, religions and nationalities to partner in its mission. To learn more, donate or volunteer visit habitat.org.
