

Strengthening Communities **Through Safe and Resilient Housing**



YEAR IN REVIEW

2024 GLOBAL NEIGHBOURS

Welcome to Habitat for Humanity Canada's Global Neighbours 2024 Year In Review. As Habitat Canada's international grant program, Global Neighbours allows us to work in partnership with local Habitats throughout the world to build strength, stability and independence through housing.

Our federation's home-for-home approach is built on the belief that the need for housing is global. Inspired by that idea, Habitats across Canada donate a symbolic tithe amount of \$2,500 on the completion of every home we build or renovate in Canada — an amount equal to the average bricks and mortar cost of building an international home. Your generosity is the foundation that supports these life-changing projects globally.

The success of Global Neighbours in 2024 was made possible through the generosity of your 2023 tithe contributions of \$438,167.

This report shares the great progress we continue to make globally. In 2024, projects were completed in Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras and Vietnam and we are proud to share key project outputs. In addition, new impactful projects in Côte d'Ivoire and Malawi began in 2024, which when fully implemented will support the economic empowerment of youth, women and families, helping to break the cycle of poverty in their communities.

Thank you for your ongoing support and commitment in helping us to fulfill Habitat's vision of a world where everyone has a safe and decent place to call home.



IN 2024:

5,600 people had an improved place to call home through rehabilitating or building homes and community infrastructure, constructing latrines, installing healthy eco-stoves, and creating access to clean water

7,200 people engaged in training such as construction, water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH), financial literacy, safe and healthy housing, and disaster risk management

ONE HABITAT

OUR GLOBAL APPROACH

As a member of Habitat for Humanity International, a global housing organization working in more than 70 countries, Habitat Canada improves peoples' lives in Canada and around the world.

Habitat Canada is a valued contributor to Habitat for Humanity's global network, which helped more than 3 million people build or improve a place to call home in 2024. An additional 5.3 million people improved their housing conditions and built better, healthier lives through training and advocacy driven by Habitat in their communities.

Around the world, Habitat for Humanity delivers local impact. Habitat works with local communities, regional and national governments, peer organizations, and the private sector to remove systemic barriers preventing low-income and historically underserved families from accessing adequate, affordable shelter.

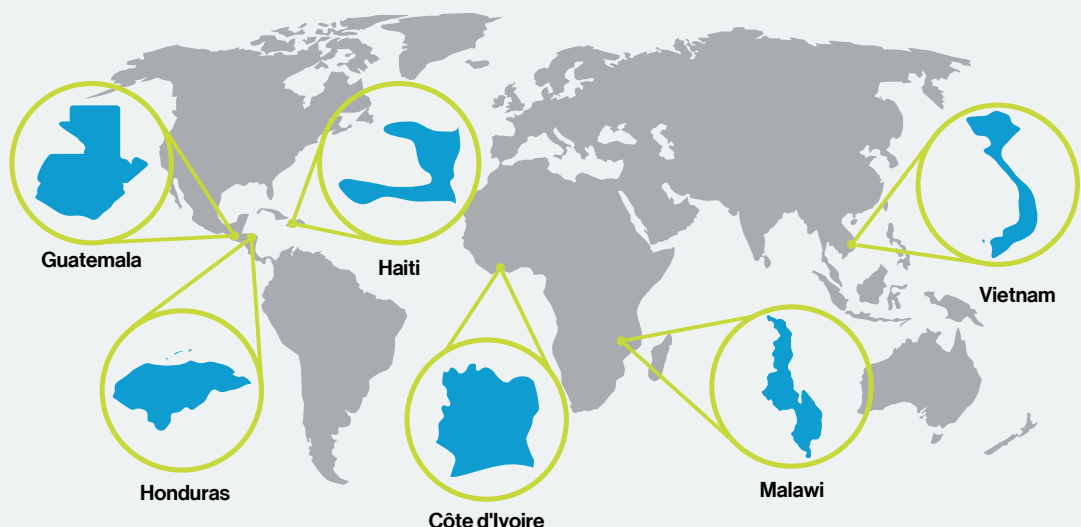
Habitat works through established country and regional offices in Africa, Asia and the Pacific; Europe; Latin America and the Caribbean; and the Middle East. Our integrated, multi-sector approach provides solutions in urban, peri-urban and rural areas around the world with a strategic focus on land tenure security; water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH); energy efficiency; private sector engagement and market systems development; and disaster risk reduction and response.

Community strengths, needs and goals define Habitat for Humanity's evidence-driven, results-based and people-centered interventions. Our partnerships support sustainable change so that people can thrive and live with dignity, security and independence. Habitat places great emphasis on analyzing the social, technological and economic impact and outcomes of each project through risk mapping, with a special focus on vulnerable groups such as orphans, female-headed households and people with disabilities. We employ a robust monitoring, evaluation, accountability and learning system that have been set up to continually track, modify and refine approaches.

Habitat for Humanity advocates for policies that bring adequate housing within reach for the estimated 1.6 billion people who currently lack decent shelter globally, and we help make housing market systems more responsive to their needs. A driver or catalyst for 13 of the United Nations' 17 Sustainable Development Goals, housing is particularly important around the world as an essential component of any comprehensive approach to recovery and development.

Research tells us that safe, resilient and affordable housing leads to gains in health, education and economic opportunity. This promotes broader reductions in inequality while building resilience against disasters and economic crises. Habitat's work around the world is supported by hundreds of key partners, including local Canadian Habitat organizations.

COMPLETED AND NEW PROJECT LOCATIONS IN 2024



PROJECT SUMMARIES

PROJECTS COMPLETED IN 2024

GUATEMALA:

Empowering families of people with disabilities in Sololá, Guatemala, 2021-2024

2024 marked the end of a successful multi-year partnership with Hope and Healing International, Association of Parents and Friends of People with Disabilities (ADISA), and Habitat for Humanity Guatemala. Working alongside families, 45 homes were built or adapted to their children's needs, with Habitat Guatemala offering skills training and financial education and delivering a number of specialized wraparound services that focused on empowering adults and children living with disabilities.

BUDGET \$300,000

SOURCES Tithing and [Hope and Healing International](#)

TARGETED POPULATION 6,071 people benefited from this project

OUTCOMES

- Provided families with an adequate housing solution, adapted to their particular needs.
- Supported and improved the health care, education, and livelihood conditions of people with disabilities.
- Empowered people with disabilities and their families to gain knowledge and change their practices and behaviours to improve their quality of life.



BY THE NUMBERS (2021-2024)

45 new homes built or adapted for accessibility

463 people demonstrated an increase in positive practices and attitudes towards creating a better family and community environment

81 children, youth and adults with disabilities improved their livelihoods

481 children with disabilities received skills training to improve their independence and enhance their education

170 people received training in financial literacy, safe and healthy housing and disaster and risk management

1,801 people improved their health by receiving individually targeted support from the public health system



PROJECT SUMMARIES

PROJECTS COMPLETED IN 2024

HAITI:

100% Women Project, 2023-2024

In Haiti, unemployment and poverty disproportionately impact women, and they need robust, targeted solutions to ensure their long-term economic security. Because of traditional views of women's roles and other socio-cultural barriers, women are largely cut out of the construction sector, an important contributor to Haiti's economy. To overcome those barriers, Habitat Haiti's 100% Women Project aimed to strengthen women's technical, financial, and social capacities through training in local enhanced construction methods. The program also provided improved self-confidence, professional development and education on Habitat for Humanity safeguarding practices.* In 2024, five homes with latrines and water collection tanks were built.

*safeguarding is protecting people's health, well-being, and human rights, especially children, young people, and vulnerable adults, ensuring they live free from harm, abuse and neglect

BUDGET \$135,000

SOURCES Tithing

TARGETED POPULATION 58 people benefitted from this project

OUTCOMES

- Contributed to the socio-economic development of women through the strengthening of the construction sector.

BY THE NUMBERS (2023-2024)

5 homes constructed for women-led households by trained 100% Women Project female masons

34 women identified for training on safe, disaster-resilient construction techniques through Habitat Haiti's "learning by doing" approach

28 women received on the job skills training in construction and entrepreneurship through access to the construction job market

38 female trainees took part in Habitat's safeguarding practices



Ritha stands proudly in front of her family's new home thanks to Habitat Canada's partnership with Habitat for Humanity Haiti in Camp-Perrin, Haiti



PROJECT SUMMARIES

PROJECTS COMPLETED IN 2024

VIETNAM:

Improving living conditions and settlements for H'mong people in Vietnam, 2021-2024

Together, Habitat Canada and Habitat for Humanity Vietnam partnered with local Van Lang and Tan Lang Communes in Northern Vietnam. This project worked with vulnerable families and local authorities to build or improve housing infrastructure for climate resiliency, rehabilitate communal water facilities, increase water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) solutions and reduce exposure to health risks through hazardous materials training.

BUDGET \$713,887

SOURCES Tithing and [Canarector](#)

TARGETED POPULATION 8,245 people benefitted from this project

OUTCOMES

- Increased access to safe and affordable housing and WASH facilities by applying disaster resilient and climate change adaptation techniques and safe and environmentally sustainable construction materials.
- Reduced health risk to hazardous materials.
- Target community has improved access to rehabilitated communal water facilities and services.
- Vulnerable ethnic minorities are capable of responding to disaster risks and climate shocks by being involved in decision-making and management of disaster preparedness and climate change adaptation/ mitigation plans for their own communities.

BY THE NUMBERS (2021-2024)

4 communal facilities built or rehabilitated to serve at least 800 vulnerable community members

16 houses built

40 low-cost latrines built

50 houses renovated

60 people took part in Participatory Approaches for Safe Shelter Awareness (PASSA) training; PASSA is a methodology that aims to raise people's awareness of the everyday risks related to their built environment and foster locally appropriate safe shelter and settlement practices

130 families provided with training on WASH, proper construction techniques and home maintenance

181 local masons, villagers and members of community organizations (70 men, 111 women) trained on safe and risk-free construction, health risks, and how to dismantle asbestos sheets safely



PROJECT SUMMARIES

PROJECTS COMPLETED IN 2024

HONDURAS:

Healthy housing for ethnic groups, 2023-2024

Indigenous peoples make up 9% of the Honduran population. With limited access to financing or opportunities to save, Indigenous families often live in substandard housing that can lead to health problems such as chagas disease and dengue — viral infections spread to humans by parasites and mosquito bites. In 2023, Habitat for Humanity Honduras partnered with ethnic Tolupán and Lenca communities located in the central and western part of the country. Together, they worked to improve families' living conditions with the construction of floors, latrines, and healthy eco-stoves, and to strengthen local capacity to improve family hygiene and sanitation practices.

BUDGET \$99,720

SOURCES Tithing

TARGETED POPULATION 4,465 people benefitted from this project

OUTCOMES

- Improved the living conditions of Indigenous families and strengthened local capacities.

BY THE NUMBERS (2023-2024)

10 water, sanitation and hygiene workshops conducted for 45 families

148 repairs completed including concrete floor installation, latrine and eco-stove construction



PROJECT SUMMARIES

NEW PROJECTS IN 2024

CÔTE D'IVOIRE: Improving the living conditions of cocoa farmers and their children through WASH, food security and economic empowerment in Gôh-Djiboua District, 2024-2027

Cocoa-farming families in rural Côte d'Ivoire have limited access to clean water and inadequate hygiene and sanitation facilities. One-third of households practice open defecation. Too young to use open pit-latrines, children use the backyards of houses to defecate, resulting in mothers having to sweep up human waste daily. In addition, only half of schools have functional latrines. The lack of sanitation facilities is responsible for the spread of many water-borne diseases such as cholera, yellow fever and malaria.

Compounding this are gender disparities in agricultural communities, with women undervalued and perceived as helpers rather than farming partners, although they provide 80% of food production labour and sell 60% of crops. Largely ignored, women receive few agricultural extension services — information, guidance and services that farmers need to develop their knowledge, skills and practices to improve food and nutrition security and their livelihoods. Furthermore, while Ivorian law grants women the right to own property, traditional customs often deny women this right.

Improving access to clean water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) is essential for preventing disease and reducing mortality rates, resulting in better maternal and child health. It will also reduce time and energy needed for women to fetch water, enabling them to participate in income generating activities, education and overall well-being — supporting gender equity and leading to broader economic development, ultimately breaking the cycle of poverty by contributing to sustainable growth.



BUDGET \$650,000

SOURCES Tithing and
[Peter Gilgan Foundation](#)

TARGETED POPULATION 18,000 people will benefit from this project

DESIRED PROJECT OUTCOME #1

Increased access to water, sanitation and hygiene for cocoa farmers and their families with a particular focus on women.

OUTPUTS

- Construct and rehabilitate six inclusive, environmentally sustainable water points for clean water access.
- Establish and strengthen six community WASH committees.
- Construct nine gender-segregated and inclusive school latrines.
- Conduct awareness sessions on good hygiene practices and menstrual hygiene management.

DESIRED PROJECT OUTCOME #2

Increased economic empowerment of cocoa farmers and their children with a particular focus on women and youth.

OUTPUTS

- Train youth in the production of eco-friendly and climate-resilient stabilized soil blocks bricks for school and household latrines.
- Conduct awareness and advocacy sessions on nature-based farming solutions and renewable technologies to help preserve forests vital to cocoa production and improve cocoa yields.
- Conduct financial literacy training for cocoa farmers, with a particular focus on women.
- Establish six women-led market garden groups with training on improved gardening and livestock practices.
- Increase access to land tenure security and climate-resilient activities for vulnerable cocoa farmers, particularly women.

PROJECT SUMMARIES

NEW PROJECTS IN 2024

MALAWI: Circles of Care – Empowering families of children with disabilities through housing and improved livelihoods in Dedza district, 2024-2027

This project is in partnership with the Malawi Council for Disability Affairs and Habitat for Humanity Malawi. As the fourth largest district in the central region of Malawi, Dedza is susceptible to flooding and persistent droughts, while also having the distinction of holding one of the highest disability rates in the area. The district has more than 17,000 individuals living with disabilities, including an estimated 15,000 children. The majority of children with disabilities live with their caregivers, whose houses have poor accessibility or may be dilapidated due to poverty. Many of the houses are makeshift, constructed of mud and thatched grass and prone to collapsing.

This project will support families and children with disabilities to improve their overall quality of life through adequate housing, as well as resources and vocational skills, while living in a communal and more independent environment.



BUDGET \$350,000

SOURCES Tithing and Hope and Healing International

TARGETED POPULATION 1,336 people will benefit from this project

DESIRED PROJECT OUTCOME #1

Construction of climate-resilient and disability-friendly homes to advance the living standards and reduce vulnerability for individuals with disabilities.

OUTPUTS

- Build or rehabilitate shelter for 20 families with children with disabilities (70 people).
- Train 52 local artisans (within the greater community and from families with disabilities) in safer house construction techniques.
- Train 30 people including local leadership in land tenure and property rights to avert the displacement of families of children with disabilities.
- Provide 20 families and surrounding community members with home maintenance training and economic empowerment resources such as entrepreneurial support and access to educational opportunities.

DESIRED PROJECT OUTCOME #2

Improved coordination and visibility of Circles of Care project at community, district and national levels.

OUTPUTS

- Conduct four district inception meetings with governing committees to gain project approvals and recommendations.
- Document human interest and success stories to share during national and international calendar days i.e. International Day of Persons with Disabilities.
- Engage 170 district government officials to ensure continued project cooperation.
- Enhance community engagement through social media to promote the Circles of Care project and transform attitudes towards people with disabilities.





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