

NEPAL

The devastating 2015 earthquake in Nepal left more than 8,700 people dead and resulted in large-scale damage to hundreds of thousands of homes. But even before the earthquake, the country's housing need was acute and growing. A 2010 study by UN-Habitat showed that at least 40,000 urban housing units are required annually in Nepal. Since the 2015 earthquakes, however, the housing need has grown significantly, as more than 498,000 houses were destroyed and over 256,000 houses damaged.

Habitat for Humanity Nepal

Habitat for Humanity began working in Nepal in 1997. By 2005, Habitat Nepal had helped 830 families build homes. To increase the number of households served, Habitat Nepal began working in partnership with non-government organizations, particularly microfinance institutions and village savings groups to provide housing loans to low-income families. By June 2011, Habitat Nepal celebrated its 10,000th family served, and by April 2015 when the earthquake hit, Habitat had helped more than 54,000 Nepali families address their housing needs.

Project Context

Habitat Nepal works with local partners to train individuals, families, and entire communities in safe shelter awareness. This empowers communities to make informed choices on home construction, water, sanitation, and other shared resources. By including all individuals in the community, Habitat also promotes gender equality and social inclusion, as gender, caste, and ethnicity-based exclusion are deeply embedded in Nepalese society.



Country Facts

Capital	Kathmandu
Population	29 million (July 2016 est.)
Urbanization	18.6% live in cities (2015)
Life expectancy	70.7 years (2016 est.)
Unemployment rate	3.5% (2008 est.)
Population living below the poverty line	25.2% (2011 est.)
Literacy rate	63.9%
Access to improved sanitation facilities	45.8% (2015 est.)

Source: World Factbook



Country Map



SAFE SHELTER FOR FAMILIES IN NEPAL

Supporting Families' Reconstruction Needs

In 2017, Habitat for Humanity Canada and Habitat Nepal began working together to improve the lives of families in the Kavre and Nuwakot Districts of Nepal. Habitat is providing grants of \$2,500 per family to 30 low-income families in Kavre to enable them to build new homes. These grants are for the construction of new core houses, or small, secure homes that can be extended onto in future as families need. These core homes are disaster resilient and designed in collaboration with the government. Grants are issued in three installments in order for Habitat Nepal to provide technical assistance to families through every step in their construction process with visits from local engineers and experts.

In addition, more families in Tupche, Nuwakot will receive building materials for repairs and retrofits, as well as additional support in the form of labour. The project will take place through 2018 and will directly benefit 100 families or more.



Working with Families and Communities

Habitat Nepal works in partnership with the local community organizations and the government of Nepal ensure that the most vulnerable families are identified and selected for support based on current living conditions, damages to their houses, and financial capacity.

Once selected, families receive financial support as well as technical support through local engineers who visit the families to ensure safe, disaster resilient construction. These families often contribute their own labour and savings with technical support and oversight provided by Habitat and local partners. In addition, to support the home building process Habitat also sends international and local volunteers to help build alongside them.

Meet Binda

Binda Darji's life went on a downward spiral after the earthquakes in 2015. Her husband passed away unexpectedly at the age of 31 and Binda was devastated, a young widow with two children to feed and no proper place to live.

Fortunately her life took another turn, when Habitat Nepal started rebuilding work in her area in the Nuwakot District of Nepal. With the support of her community, international volunteers, and technical and financial assistance from Habitat Nepal, Binda was able to build a house that she can call her own.

"I am very pleased to have a new house. I am grateful to Habitat for Humanity," says Binda, "Having my own house frees me from so many anxieties. Now I can focus on educating my children."

