

Philippines

Country Profile

● Affiliates
 ⊕ National Office



National Capital Region (NCR)

1. Greater Metro Manila
2. Las Pinas
3. Muntinlupa
4. Taguig
5. Paranaque

Luzon

6. Bicol
7. Cagayan Valley
8. Central Plains
9. Quezon Cocopalms
10. Upland Cavite
11. Western Batangas
12. Riza
13. Zion Puerto Princesa Palawan
14. Laguna

South China Sea

15. Dumaguete City
16. Metro Cebu
17. Negros Occidental
18. Tagbilaran City
19. The Ilongo
20. Roxas City

- ### Mindanao
21. Butuan
 22. Davao del Sur
 23. General Santos City
 24. Kidapawan
 25. Iligan
 26. Midsayap
 27. Oro
 28. Tacurong
 29. Zamboanga

THE PHILIPPINE archipelago encompasses a thriving economy, a multitude of vibrant cultures and some of the natural wonders of Asia. Yet, more than four million Filipino families live below the poverty line. Crowded squatter areas proliferate in Metro Manila and other urban centers. The shortage of affordable land and a fast-growing population thwart efforts by government and private-sector housing effort to tackle homelessness and poverty housing. In coastal areas, homes may be raised on stilts, but these are often inadequate to withstand severe weather or seasonal typhoons.

Habitat for Humanity Philippines is one of the largest HFH programs in the region. Habitat began in Metro Manila in 1988, and now works in rural and urban areas. "Building in Stages" ("core" houses) and "Row House" designs are the principal models used by the 29 affiliates and 18 satellite groups. Core houses, which can be added to once initial mortgages have been paid down, measure 30 sq. m. and two-story row houses cover some 40 sq. m.

COUNTRY FACTS

Area: 300,000 sq. km.
Population: 86,241,697
Capital: Manila
Ethnic groups: Christian Malay 91.5%, Muslim Malay 4%, Chinese 1.5%, others 3%
Religions: Roman Catholic 83%, Protestant 9%, Muslim 5%, Buddhist and others 3%.
Languages: Filipino, English, Tagalog, Ilocano, Cebuano and regional languages

HFH works with microfinance partners to extend its reach. It pioneered "Save & Upgrade" for families in urban areas who own land, but cannot afford to build or upgrade their homes. In response to escalating urban land costs, Habitat has developed three-story multi-family residences with grant funding from the European Union. The increasing use of interlocking concrete and compressed earth blocks, both of which can be made on site, provide a cheaper and more attractive alternative to normal hollow cement blocks.

HFH Philippines has a large and active volunteer program. It has hosted dozens of international work teams, as well as mobilizing local church congregations and tens of thousands of local students and youngsters for regular "Build on Faith", youth and other special events such as "Peace Builds" with Moslems in the troubled south. In 1999, HFH Philippines hosted the Jimmy Carter Work Project. This brought together over 14,000 volunteers from all over the world to build 293 houses in a single week.

HABITAT FACTS

Families Helped
10,422
 Cost Of One House*
US\$2,290

As of April 2005

*international sponsorship cost

Habitat Highlights

- Disaster response and community transformation initiative project in a fire stricken part of Manila's port area involves 1,000 families. To date, 272 homes have been completed.
- Partnerships with local service-oriented bodies like Philippine Business for Social Progress, Consuelo "Chito" Madrigal Foundation and co-operatives.
- Hosted 34 Global Village teams in 2004, and raised a total of US\$143,397 enough for 125 homes.
- Over 300,000 volunteers have worked on Habitat sites in the Philippines to date.
- Building on Faith is now a year-round program renamed "Building on Faith with Families."



HFH Philippines

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