

Côte d'Ivoire

Habitat for Humanity in Côte d'Ivoire

Established in 1999, Habitat for Humanity Côte d'Ivoire works with homeowners to build safe, dry and secure homes, with decent sanitation.

The housing need in Côte d'Ivoire

The cumulative Housing deficit in Cote d'Ivoire was estimated at 1,000,000 units in 2015. In the city of Abidjan alone, the housing deficit is estimated from 40,000 to 50,000 units per year. An estimated 3000 units are supplied annually in Abidjan leaving a significant gap in a city with an annual demand unit. The Government stopped subsidizing housing in 1995, contributing to the acute deficit prior to the 2010-11 crises.

In rural areas, 90% people live in temporary structures, which require extensive upkeep and repair and are vulnerable to fire. Walls are typically made of mud in a wooden frame and often crack, causing leaks and eventually falling apart. Thatch-roof houses harbor numerous disease-carrying insects, such as malarial mosquitoes and the tsetse fly, which can spread eye disease. The lack of latrines and water facilities was found to be a major challenge. Only 18.1% of the households possess a pit latrine, 39% of household practiced open defecation (OD), and 92.5% of household used unsafe drinking water (MICS 2016). In schools, disabled children do not drink or even eat all day to avoid going to toilet (MOE, 2013). Côte d'Ivoire has one of the highest adult HIV prevalence rate in West Africa, estimated at 3.7%. HIV-related orphans and vulnerable children (OVC) are estimated to number 440,000. 61,000 are children living with HIV, including 10,863 OVC in primary Schools (Ministry of Education, School Statistics 2016-2017). Insecure or inadequate latrines increases the risk of abuse, and the lack of safe water reduces school attendance and compromises health for children.

Habitat's contribution in Côte d'Ivoire

Habitat Côte d'Ivoire's work focuses on Water, Sanitation and Hygiene, Community led Total Sanitation, Orphans and Vulnerable Group Housing, Save and Build houses, and advocacy for Land property. HFHCI builds houses and latrines using appropriate technology and local building materials. The designs are simple and spacious and cater to the individual families' needs, while remaining affordable for the homeowners. Houses consist of two or three bedrooms and a hall. Smaller houses are currently planned, with Soil Blocks Bricks in order to reach families in the lowest income groups.



COUNTRY FACTS*

Capital	Yamoussoukro
Date of independence	1960
Population	23.1 million
Urbanization	49.7%
Life expectancy	58 years
Unemployment rate	6.9%
Population living below the poverty line	46.3%

*Find more country facts on:

CIA the World Factbook – Cote d'Ivoire

HABITAT FACTS

Date when Habitat started working in the country
1999

Individuals served in FY17
74,185

Volunteers hosted in FY17
1,281

Housing solutions
New homes, rehabs, incremental, repairs



Our programs

Disabled, Orphans and Vulnerable Groups Housing

This project aims to protect the inheritance rights and to improve the living conditions of Disabled, Orphans and Vulnerable Children (OVC), affected or infected by HIV/AIDS and families through housing and related support services. Habitat provides care and support services for Disabled, OVC and their caregiver. These services included: Psychosocial support, Household economic strengthening (Financial Education), Legal Protection, Shelter and Care (such as, house repair, clothes, bedding; Care, caregiver training or support, placement of children with family in a safe and secure environment), Technical and vocational training in construction trades; Health & Education (WASH in School).

Save and build housing program for low-income families

The Save and Build (S&B) initiative focuses on mobilizing communities to form saving groups for housing purpose. HFHCI encourage partnership with local financial Institution and other partners to finance decent housing. Home partner families usually form groups to save the cost of their house, obtain micro-loans from financial institutions using savings as collateral, or financial sponsorship. HFHCI collaborates with small-scale contractors for the house construction and rehabilitation. Homeowners also receive financial education to improve knowledge on family income management. The program also supports affordable solar energy solutions for rural households to resolve lighting problems and facilitate the children education on a pay-as-you-go installment plan.

HFHCI is piloting using Stabilised Soil Block (SSB) technology to build affordable houses. This offers lower construction costs at comparable quality, is suitable for a wide range of environments, and dramatically reduces the impact on the environment.

Water, sanitation and hygiene for vulnerable communities

The overall goal of this program is to provide sustainable and secure solutions to improving access to clean drinking Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) in the Central and Northern regions. The program supports the construction and rehabilitation of water pumps and water quality testing, the construction of appropriate latrines and handwashing facilities in schools, and provide training to schoolchildren on good hygiene practices for preventing water-borne diseases. HFHCI conducts hygiene promotion activities, community members are trained in safe water practices and a Water Committee formed and trained to maintain the facility. School girls and teachers receive training and engage in activities aimed at ensuring they have adequate knowledge on Menstrual Hygiene Management (MHM) and adequate facilities. Under this program HFHCI mobilise communities through Community-Led Total Sanitation (CLTS), under the strong partnership established with the Ministry of Construction and Sanitation. CLTS is an innovative methodology for mobilising communities to eliminate open defecation (OD). Since 2017, HFHCI has supported 46 villages to be certified open defecation Free. HFHCI supported the construction of 3,084 latrines.



Meet a Habitat family

N'Guessan lives in Troumambo, a small village in the central region of Côte d'Ivoire. She is a housewife and mother of five children. The only water point in the village was, installed 20 years ago. When the pump is broken, N'Guessan, like many families in the community, has to walk nearly two miles to get unsanitary water from the river Bandama. When the government installed the old pump, there was no water point committee set up. This situation meant that when the water pump broke, nobody knew how to repair it.

When Habitat started the rehabilitation of the broken water pump, N'Guessan said it was one of the most beautiful days in her life. She decided to be a member of the water pump committee. Her role is to ensure good hygiene practices and safety of the water pump. She is pleased to participate. "With the water points rehabilitated, my children can go to school. The conditions of life of the population of Troumambo, mostly children have been improved", she said.

What you can do

You can help families in Côte d'Ivoire improve their living conditions by taking one or more of the following actions:

Donate

Go to habitat.org/donate and designate your gift to Habitat Côte d'Ivoire.

Volunteer

Join a local team to give back to your community. Contact us to learn more.

Tithe

All affiliate tithe gifts are sent internationally to serve families outside of the United States.

To support the work of Habitat **COTE d'IVOIRE**, please send your tithe to: Habitat for Humanity International P.O. Box 6598 Americus, GA31709-3498

Contact

To learn more about Habitat projects in Côte d'Ivoire, please contact us.

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To learn more about volunteering opportunities in Côte d'Ivoire, please contact gv.emea@habitat.org