

# DOMINICAN REPUBLIC



**Why we build:** According to the report "Characteristics of housing in the Dominican Republic," just like the roof, bathroom and walls, the floors in a home have a direct impact on the quality of life of those who live there and is related to the comfort, hygiene, and safety of its inhabitants.

According to the 2010 Dominican Republic National Census, out of 2,662,862 households counted at a local level, 99,158 (3.7%) of the occupied households have dirt floors, 62.9% of which are in rural areas. The regions with the highest percentage of homes with dirt floors are El Valle (10.7%), Enriquillo (6.4%) and Cibao Noroeste (3.2%).

**Project Description:** Since 2022, Habitat Dominican Republic has joined the regional initiative 100,000 Floors to Play On with the Inter-American Cement Federation (FICEM), to replace 10,000 unsafe, dirt floors with concrete floors in the country. Unpaved floors serve as a breeding ground for disease-causing parasites, bacteria, and insects that can lead to major health and hygiene threats. Research shows that dirt floors can also stunt children's cognitive development.

Volunteers will work alongside partner families to help pave new, concrete floors in their homes.

