



ROMANIA

Why we build: Romania has the highest rate of housing deprivation among all countries in the European Union, according to a statement made on behalf of the Romanian government to the UN. Poor and marginalized groups, in both urban and rural areas, face serious challenges in the housing sector, including low quality housing, inadequate infrastructure, and lack of tenure security, particularly in the case of informal settlements. Housing unaffordability is strongly linked to low-income households living in the worst conditions and spending a higher share of their income on housing expenses. Official data showed that 36% of the population is at risk of poverty and social exclusion and 3 in 10 Romanians are affected by housing issues such as overcrowding or lack of adequate sanitary facilities.

Project Description: Volunteers will build and renovate homes in partnership with low-income families throughout the country. This ranges from single house builds to accelerated builds of more houses in just five days. Rehabilitation work is aimed at improving living conditions of families through several types of interventions.





Zemeș

This commune with a population of 4,300 people, close to Moinesti, will be a new community for Habitat for Humanity and in 2024, we will build two homes (one duplex) for families in need.

Since 1840, oil has been extracted in these parts, and less than twenty years ago, most of the population of Zemes was working in the oil extraction industry.

Since 2004, the whole industry has went through a complex modernization process, one outcome being that most of the workers have been laid off and their jobs were taken by machines. Out of more than 3,000 people working in the oil industry, less than 500 have managed to keep their job.

Moinești

The Municipality of Moinesti has hundreds of applications for social housing indicating the great need in the community, but it can only resolve a small fraction of them. Because of their low income, our Partner Families don't have the possibility to access a loan from the bank or to buy a house in order to improve their living conditions.

Most young families are forced to live with their parents, usually in a small apartment. The lack of intimacy leads to conflicts between family members causing emotional imbalances, especially for children with serious consequences in their development.

Habitat for Humanity Romania has formed a very solid partnership with the City Hall of Moinesti, building 37 homes for families in need (8 quadruplexes, one triplex, and one duplex) all on one single street that the locals call "Habitat Street". Another 8 homes have been built in another part of the city.

For 2024 we will build 4 new homes (one quadruplex) in order to better serve the community.

Țuțora

In 2023, during two accelerated construction events called Hope Build, Habitat changed the lives of eight families in need from the Țuțora commune in which a little over 2,000 souls live. The number is growing rapidly due to its close proximity to the Municipality of Iasi, one of the biggest cities in Romania where over 350,000 people reside. In 2024 we will continue building duplexes for two families in need.

Because of this proximity, the commune is in full development both from an economic as well as from an administrative point of view. Due to these things, families from the Commune no longer want to leave and there are more and more families who want to move to Țuțora.

The City Hall has made available to Habitat a plot of land planned for the construction of housing for young people, but also several work points for different local NGOs in Romania, so that the area where we are building will develop in the future as a new neighborhood.

Berceni

The commune of Berceni is located near the city of Ploiești where Habitat built twenty homes between 2012 and 2018. In 2019 Habitat has started building twelve homes (three quadruplexes) in Berceni, and in 2024 will build four more homes (two duplexes).

At the same time, since 2015, Habitat Romania has carried out several Disaster Reduction Risk and Response prevention projects in Berceni where more than one hundred families were helped and instructed to maintain their heating installations to prevent house fires. Being a predominantly industrial area with a high number of families with low incomes, Habitat's mission in the area is very well received.