



AT A GLANCE

Families served to date¹

1,896

Families served this year²

1,017

¹New houses and rehabilitations

²New houses, rehabilitations and repairs
in the year to June 30, 2010

— Updated January 2011 —

THE RISE OF CHINA as a new economic powerhouse continues to dazzle. Living standards have improved dramatically for many people over the past three decades. However, rising prosperity has sharply increased income inequality, especially between and those who live legally in major cities.

Rapid economic growth has greatly reduced abject poverty. However, the World Bank estimates that in 2005, the latest figures available, China still had 254 million people living on less than US\$1.25 a day. Many of these poorest people live in remote mountainous regions or are members of minority communities.

Many of the poor lack access to affordable housing, shut out by soaring land and house prices, and the inadequate supply of low cost accommodation.

Habitat for Humanity China was established in 2000. It began operations in mainland China in 2002 in Kunming, capital of Yunnan, one of China's poorest provinces. In 2004, offices were opened in neighboring Guangxi and Guangdong provinces. The former, based in the provincial capital Nanning, is the result of a strategic partnership with the Guangxi Poverty Alleviation Development Office and the Guangxi Disabled Persons' Federation. Initial projects in Guangxi involved working with leprosy-affected people in to improve their homes in a partnership that linked with The Leprosy Mission International. The Guangdong office, based in the provincial capital Guangzhou, was set up as a result of a partnership with the Guangdong Disabled Persons' Federation.

In January 2006, Habitat merged its operations in Hong Kong and China into a single entity. The move leverages on the resources and business acumen of Asia's premier international city to promote Habitat's mission. Hong Kong concentrates on raising funds and recruiting teams of volunteers. To provide a build experience within Hong Kong, and to help disadvantaged elderly residents, the office has an on-going restoration project in a local fishing village. The office has played a leading role in raising both in response to natural disasters both within China and overseas.

The devastating May 2008 earthquake in Sichuan produced an out-

pouring of resources and volunteers. HFH China opened an office in the provincial capital Chengdu to coordinate its rebuilding work in outlying communities — and later to oversee Habitat activities across southwestern China. To date, HFH China has built homes and assisted nearly 1,000 families in half a dozen Sichuan communities. Earlier, HFH China assisted families to reconstruct their houses in Chushui county, Yunnan, after a snow storm in early 2008, and families affected by the June 2007 earthquake in nearby Pu'er city. In Guangdong, HFH China rebuilt homes for a flood-affected community.

In 2009, Habitat opened an office in Shanghai to take advantage of opportunities in the country's commercial and financial capital. The office develops and funds projects in the Yangzi river delta region and supports Habitat's work elsewhere in China. This office has established a rehabilitation project for local elderly citizens to showcase Habitat's work to locally-based donors and officials.

Most Habitat projects are in rural areas where homes are often made of unsafe structures. Residents commonly rely on communal wells for water. Decent sanitation facilities are not widely available. A typical Habitat home measures about 70 sq. m. in size, and is constructed with red bricks, stone, compressed earth blocks or wood supplemented with a tiled roof. (Government regulations meant homes rebuilt after the Sichuan earthquake were larger.) A flat roof design is preferred as home partners can use the space both for drying grain and for collecting rainwater. Home partners also have the flexibility to build a second story if they have the financial means.

The China-leg of the November 2009 Carter Work Project was held in a periurban setting in Qionglai city, Sichuan. Former U.S. president Jimmy Carter visited volunteers working on apartments as part of an urban initiative by the city government to provide low-cost rental housing units to families in need.

China is an increasingly popular destination for locally-based and overseas Habitat volunteer build teams. Habitat has hosted volunteer teams from 12 overseas countries including from the American International School of Guangzhou, International School of Beijing and Shanghai American School as well as teams from South Korea and the United States. 🏠

HFH CHINA Highlights

► By the end of 2010, over 560 volunteers had worked on Habitat's stilt house restoration and community development project in fishing village of Tai O, Hong Kong. Corporations had donated around HK\$1.6 million (US\$205,800). The project, supported by the Young Women's Christian Association, offers a build experience within a pocket of poverty in one of Asia's most prosperous cities.

► In November 2010, international hotel group Marriott in Shanghai organized a charity ball in aid of HFH China. The event garnered 420,000 yuan (US\$63,000) toward Habitat's Shanghai Age-Friendly Housing Renovation Project". Earlier in the year, Marriott held a charity golf day in Shanghai to support of Habitat's work.

► In November 2010, more than 130 China and international volunteers helped 120 earthquake-affected families in Liangshaba village, Zhuyuan town, Qingchuan county, Sichuan. The four-day "New Hope Build" marked the first project in a partnership between Jet Li's One Foundation and HFH China.

► In October 2010, HFH China launched its pilot project in Shanghai, the commercial and financial hub of mainland China. Habitat will renovate or repair and generally tidy up homes for up to 20 elderly families in the initial phase of the "Shanghai Age-Friendly Housing Renovation Project".

► Rotary Club of Wanchai, Hong Kong, organized a charity movie premiere of "Eat, Pray, Love" in October 2010 to benefit HFH China's Tai O project. A total of HK\$150,000 (US\$21,000) was raised.

► Habitat for Humanity was the only NGO to be featured in a giant video shown at the US pavilion at Shanghai's six-month long World Expo which opened in May 2010.

► In January 2010, about 200 Korean college students supported by South Korea's Hyundai Motors helped build homes in Sichuan.

► In November 2009, action film star Jet Li's One Foundation inked a partnership agreement with Habitat to work together in Sichuan in 2010 and in Yunnan, Guizhou and Guangxi provinces in 2011.

► More than 170 volunteers, mostly from Hong Kong, participated in the China-leg of the 2009 Jimmy and Rosalynn Carter Work Project. They worked on 16 units in three apartment blocks in Qionglai city, about 90 km., from the Sichuan provincial capital Chengdu.

► In September 2009, Hyundai Motor presented a US\$150,000 donation for post-earthquake reconstruction in Sichuan province. Hyundai supported 110 Korean university students to rebuild in Yangping village, Xiaoyudong town.

► In August 2009, the Shanghai office hosted 117 volunteers at its first build: in Pinghu, Zhejiang.

► Hong Kong movie star-singer Karen Mok and actor-director Daniel Wu were high profile volunteers in February 2009 at Taizi village, where the first of 253 planned homes were being built after the Sichuan earthquake. They were joined by a team of South Korean student volunteers sponsored by Korea's POSCO steel group.

► A Habitat gala benefit in Hong Kong in September 2008 raised HK\$5.3 million (US\$683,000) for work in Sichuan. Nearly HK\$5 million was raised in April 2007 went to support Habitat in earthquake-struck Pakistan and elsewhere; in 2005, the event raised HK\$5.3 million for rebuilding after the Indian Ocean tsunami.



COUNTRY FACTS

POPULATION: 1,330,141,295 (JULY 2010 EST.)

CAPITAL: Beijing

LAND AREA: 9,596,961 sq km

ETHNIC GROUPS: Han Chinese 91.5%, Zhuang, Manchu, Hui, Miao, Uyghur, Tujia, Yi, Mongol, Tibetan, Buyi, Dong, Yao, Korean, and other nationalities 8.5% (2000 census)

LANGUAGES: Standard Chinese or Mandarin (Putonghua, based on the Beijing dialect), Yue (Cantonese), Wu (Shanghaiese), Minbei (Fuzhou), Minnan (Hokkien-Taiwanese), Xiang, Gan, Hakka dialects, minority languages.

RELIGIONS: Daoist (Taoist), Buddhist, Christian 3%-4%, Muslim 1%-2%. Officially atheist. (2002 est.)

LITERACY: 91.6% (2007 CENSUS)

URBANIZATION: 43% (2008)

POPULATION LIVING ON US\$1.25 A DAY: 16% (2005)

ACCESS TO IMPROVED WATER SOURCE: 89% (2009)

ACCESS TO IMPROVED SANITATION FACILITIES: 55% (2009)

Sources: CIA World Factbook, World Bank



17th Floor, Sun House, 181 Des Voeux Road Central, Sheung Wan, Hong Kong
Tel: +852 2520 4000 Fax: +852 2520 4020
Email: enquiry@habitatchina.org Website: www.habitatchina.org

Yunnan: Room A2, 18th Floor, Dantong Building, No.548 Baiyun Road,
Kunming, Yunnan, PRC 650024
Tel: +86 871 570 0282 Email: yndadmin@habitatchina.org

Guangdong: Room 2212, Ming Yue Ge, Ming Yue 1 Lu, Yue Xiu, Guangzhou,
Guangdong, PRC 510600
Tel: +86 20 8735 8926 Email: gdadmin@habitatchina.org

Guangxi: Room 1604, Xiang Ge Li La Jing Wan, No. 34 Xing Guang Da Dao,
Nanning, Guangxi, PRC 530031
Tel: +86 771 480 4214 Email: gxadmin@habitatchina.org

Sichuan: Room B10, 25th floor, Block B, Times Digital Building, No. 1, Section
4, South Renmin Road, Chengdu, Sichuan, PRC 610041
Tel: +86 28 8631 7192/7193 Email: sichuan@habitatchina.org

Shanghai: Room 1007, No. 107 Si Nan Road, Shanghai, PRC 200025
Tel : +86 21 6136 9196 Email: shanghai@habitatchina.org