

## What is Habitat for Humanity?

Habitat for Humanity is a non-profit Christian housing organisation that seeks to eliminate poverty housing worldwide and make decent shelter a matter of conscience and action. Habitat for Humanity seeks to partner with those of all faiths, ethnicity, backgrounds and professions in a desire to create a world without poverty housing.

Habitat for Humanity (HFH) and its affiliates in more than 3000 communities in 100 countries have built over 200,000 homes. The home-partner families contribute to build more houses and support more families through their love, labour and a no-profit mortgage payback to Habitat's revolving 'fund for humanity'.

These families in need of decent and affordable shelters, who take the decision to help themselves out of their hopelessness, are supported and motivated by HFH volunteers, both from organisations as well as individuals in this endeavour.

Habitat for Humanity Singapore (HFHSg) invites more volunteers to explore distant lands and vibrant cultures while enjoying a life-changing experience by joining a Global Village Project.

## Going on a Global Village Programme

The Global Village (GV) programme is a series of short-term trips designed to provide an educational and spiritual experience within a cross-cultural environment. Our objectives are usually met through new relationships team members form with their host affiliates. By living and working with the host community, participants have an opportunity to personally witness and contribute to Habitat's effort to eliminate substandard housing throughout the world.

## A Great Mix of Educational, Cultural and Spiritual Experience

GV itineraries are neither fixed nor rigid. Besides building activities, other activities such as orphanage visits and local sight seeing can be incorporated when available.

## The Cost of a GV Trip

The cost depends very much on the country of preference. Two types of expenses will be involved – namely individual costs and team costs. Individual costs include airfare, food and accommodation, accident and illness insurance and personal R & R and is dependent on destination of travel.

### Individual Costs *(estimated)*

*	Per Pax	Remarks	
Accident and Illness Insurance	S\$35	S\$5 day/pax	* Costing is based on a 7-day GV programme per person
In Country Expense**	S\$350	With basic option	
<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>S\$385</b>		
Air fare to be arranged by the team	Varies	By country & season	** In Country Expense: Accommodation, food, local ground transportation
R&R	Varies	According to activities	

### Team Costs

Working together, the team will be required to raise a minimum donation that will contribute towards the construction cost for the houses built in the host country. Many participants fundraise to pay their team fee by contacting civic groups, corporations, churches, friends and family. Habitat Singapore can share with you other ideas for fundraising.

	Youth* team	Adult team	Remarks
<b>Minimum team size**</b>	10 pax	10 pax	
<b>Minimum donation</b>	S\$6,000	S\$10,000	Encouraged to fundraise together as a team
<b>Additional member</b>	S\$550 each	S\$750 each	

\* Youth team: Students of age 14 to 25 years. Each Youth team requires at least one adult to go with the team.

\*\* If there are 20 pax in a team, it is considered as 2 teams. Different countries have different hosting capacity.

### Countries Available for Building

Habitat has affiliates in 100 countries and many of them host short-term GV teams. Habitat for Humanity Singapore's main focus is the Asia and Pacific region although we have individuals who participated in GV trips beyond this region.

The countries available are:

- Bangladesh
- Cambodia
- China
- East Malaysia
- Fiji
- India
- Indonesia
- Korea
- Mongolia
- New Zealand
- Papua New Guinea
- Philippines
- Thailand
- Vanuatu
- Vietnam

### Working with Habitat and Changing Lives through GV

As a Team Leader

When you sign up as a Team Leader, you will be able to choose your choice of country and time frame (subject to availability of the hosting country). You may recruit your own group of participants or request Habitat Singapore to help in the publicity for the recruitment for your team.

As an Individual

You may sign up as an individual through suggestions and recommendations from Habitat Singapore. You will contact the team leader and if accepted as a team member, he or she will help you prepare for your Global Village experience.

As a Group

Groups should call Habitat Singapore to request for available locations and dates from the appropriate affiliates. Scheduling a team should be done as early as possible for proper preparation of the hosting countries. Team size commonly ranges from ten to 20 participants.

### The Habitat Experience

Working on Habitat houses alongside team members and local residents will give you the opportunity to travel, work, eat, sleep and enjoy fellowship as a member of the host community – creating memories and friendships that last a lifetime. While in the beginning, most Global Village volunteers wanted to give of themselves to help the home partners, at the end of the day, the volunteers often feel that they have gained much more through the experience than they could ever give.

*"The very idea that I had a chance to make a difference in the lives of a community meant something to me. Little did I realise then that I would come back with so much more than I had given. I was touched by their warmth, hospitality and friendship. It was a unique experience that reminded me to enjoy and appreciate life in its entirety. The house dedication was perhaps the most touching moment of the trip. The team had built a home that would shelter our Thai friends from wind, rain and cold."*

### Contact Person

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