

Habitat for Humanity



Project	Global Village – Building new homes
Location	Zambia – Makululu, Kabwe District
Dates	20 th – 27 th June 2026
Group size	12-15

Aim and Context of the Project

Habitat for Humanity believes that by connecting communities from around the world, moving closer to a world where everyone has a decent place to call home. To achieve this goal and vision, Habitat for Humanity has been operating a well-established volunteer programme called 'Global Village' which spans 40 countries. Through the Global Village programme, volunteers transform lives and communities by building and renovating homes overseas. The COVID-19 pandemic led Habitat for Humanity to suspend the Global Village programme. During this time, they reflected on the role of volunteering, and how local engagement, volunteering, and capacity could be harnessed to add value to Global Village as well as the wider volunteer programme of Habitat for Humanity.

The more than one billion people around the world living in informal settlements, such as slums or favelas, are not treated as equals – their homes often lack basic services, land tenure security. Home Equals is Habitat's global advocacy campaign, which aims to create lasting change so that people living in informal settlements have safe and secure homes. This project is part of the Home Equals programme and will contribute to global impact goals.

Project Details

The Makululu compound is one of the largest informal settlements in the southern part of Africa. Situated on the outskirts of Kabwe, Zambia's provincial capital, Makululu has experienced rapid population growth in the last decade and is now home to over 230,000 people. Its position on wetland near the Lukanga Swamps means it is flood prone, and residents live with the fear of destruction and threat of eviction, in poor quality homes with limited access to services. Habitat's work in Makululu focuses on empowering residents, particularly women and vulnerable families, with knowledge, secure land tenure, improved shelter, water, sanitation and hygiene infrastructure, environmental resilience, and financial inclusion, and has reached over 20,000 people in Makululu.

Responsibilities/Activities: Habitat Zambia are working with local authorities to transform areas into formal residential regions, with better infrastructure like improved road access, water and electricity supplies. As well as these infrastructure improvements, this project will build new homes for the most vulnerable families. Volunteers can get directly involved, working alongside construction teams (artisans) and local volunteers to speed up the build process, completing tasks such as digging, mixing mortar, building walls, laying blocks, painting walls, and moving materials. Volunteers will also get to see the new homes come to life.

Accommodation: Volunteers will be accommodated in a local hotel in shared rooms with other JOA volunteers.