

Update 7: Tuesday 27th October 2009

* INDIA * INDONESIA * PHILIPPINES * VIETNAM * SAMOA *

Habitat for Humanity is revving to go with its repair, renovate rebuild plans in disaster-hit countries in Asia

AFTERMATH: INDONESIA EARTHQUAKES (SUMATRA, WEST JAVA)

SUMATRA, INDONESIA: Habitat for Humanity Indonesia is on course to begin its first rebuilding project following the powerful earthquake which struck Sumatra at the end of September.

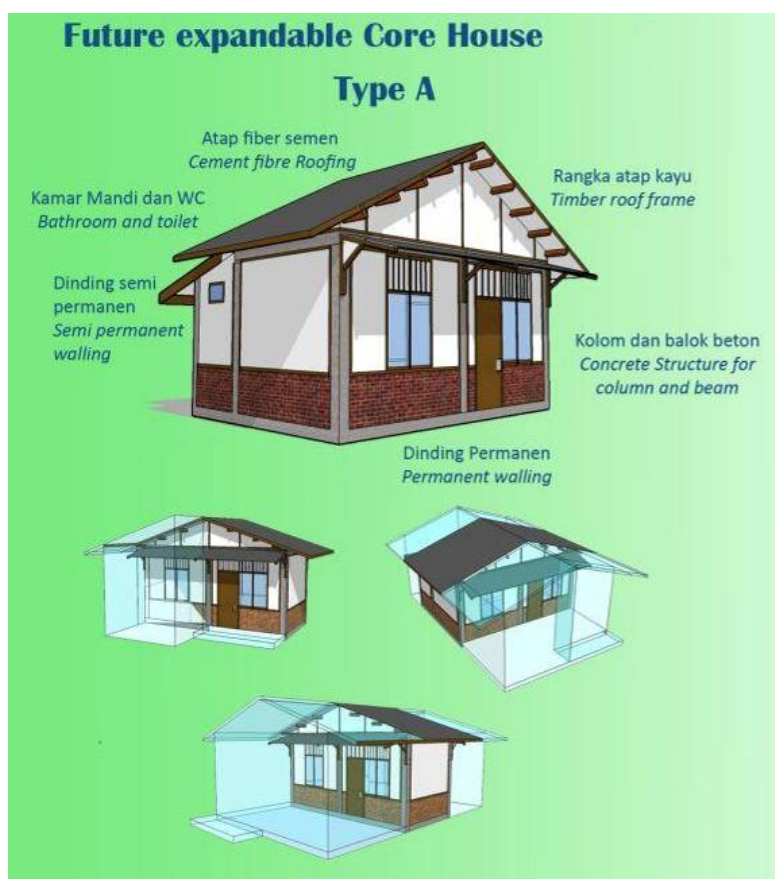
The HFH Indonesia disaster response team plan is to hold a cornerstone laying ceremony on 20th November in the village of Korong Pasa Bali Kudu, Sumatra. About 200 houses were completely destroyed in this village when a massive quake hit the area. HFH Indonesia has submitted a house design to local government authorities to apply for a building permit.

Habitat staff specializing in project management, finance, logistics, community development and construction are setting up a base in Padang this week to be closer to the ground to implement the project.

Last week, three prospective donors visited the disaster-hit areas where HFH Indonesia will focus on transitional shelter and the building of permanent core houses. These corporations from the financial services and building sectors are lending a hand through company and employee donations, discounted material cost and volunteer labor.

In response to the deadly earthquake in Sumatra, Habitat for Humanity Indonesia wants to raise more than US\$7.5 million to build 2,500 core houses. The funds will also assist 1,000 families, through a cash-for-work component to clear debris, and the provision of toolkits. In the plan is the establishment of community water points.

In a partnership with US-based development agency CHF, Habitat will take charge of distributing transitional shelter kits sponsored by CHF, and provide technical assistance for the construction of the shelters.



HFH Indonesia continues to contribute to the shelter cluster, a group of NGOs that is coordinating among themselves and with government agencies, emergency shelter in response to the quake. Habitat is also an active participant of the sub-cluster group for permanent shelter.



The 7.6-magnitude earthquake hit the Indonesian city of Padang in West Sumatra on 30th September. Some 1,117 people were reported killed. The earthquake devastated the provincial capital of Padang. Latest figures from the Indonesian government indicate that over 200,000 houses have been severely or moderately damaged.

WEST JAVA, INDONESIA: Habitat for Humanity Canada is in advanced discussions with the aid agency of the Canadian government, the Canadian International Development Agency or CIDA. CIDA is considering a proposal to match a US\$50,000 donation by HFH Canada with up to US\$500,000 to help survivors of the West Java earthquake rebuild their lives.

The first 200 homes to be built by Habitat for Humanity Indonesia, using a 'core house' design, are expected to be completed by December. This is a part of a US\$1.2 million first-phase effort to rebuild homes and lives of 1,500 families following the 2nd September earthquake. The 7.3 magnitude earthquake left at least 81 people dead and displaced over 210, 000 people. About 100,000 homes, 3,000 schools and 500 office buildings were damaged, according to figures by the National Agency for Disaster Management. The Indonesian government is allocating US\$150 million for reconstruction and rehabilitation.

AFTERMATH: TYPHOON KETSANA (PHILIPPINES, VIETNAM)

PHILIPPINES: The Philippines caught a break last Saturday as Typhoon Lupit veered away from the country which is still coping with the devastation from two previous big storms.

Thirty-five home owners from the established Habitat community in the former BASECO shipyard, in Manila are working with Habitat for Humanity Philippines to help with the ongoing construction of steel-frame toilets in evacuation centers where thousands are still stranded. Habitat homes in BASECO are made with steel-frame technology so the owners had already learnt to erect the structures.

One of the workers, Alex Acampado, aged 54 and father of six, said: "My family has been blessed with our own home through Habitat for Humanity. Now it is my duty to extend this blessing, in my own little way. I am not rich; I have no material things to give to the victims of Ondoy (Ketsana). But I know how to build. I am really thankful for the training I got from Habitat. Through my work, I am able to provide for my family and also help others in need."

HFH Philippines and partners Philippine National Red Cross (PNRC) and Stradcom Corporation have completed 62 sanitation facilities in evacuation centers. These toilets and bath facilities were installed in eight sites in Marikina, Quezon, Muntinlupa, Pasig and Taguig Cities in Metro Manila.



Sanitation facilities constructed by Habitat for Humanity Philippines and its volunteers, in partnership with Philippine National Red Cross and Stradcom Corporation. These pictured here are located at Bagong Silangan Elementary School, Quezon City (left) and Old Provincial Capitol, Pasig City.

To date, more than two hundred Habitat volunteers have been mobilized representing Emerson Network Power (Philippines) Inc., Hands On Manila, Rizal Technological University, Shanghai American School in China and Summit media staff. They and other individuals are continuing to assist in the area clean-up and construction of the toilet facilities.

This week, HFH Philippines plans to begin the distribution of the first of up to 10,000 home repair shelter kits. The first batch will go to at least 91 families in need in Malanday, Marikina, one of the cities in Metro Manila hardest hit by the typhoon. This marks the start of a US\$1.5 million initiative and will take six months to complete.

In the next phase of repair and reconstruction, HFH Philippines is targeting to create 2,000 transitional shelters. The unit cost of a transitional shelter is US\$850.

And in the longer-term rebuilding and relocation phrase, the aim is to construct 4,000 core houses for flood-affected families.

Typhoon Ketsana, locally known as “Ondoy”, slammed in Metro Manila and parts of Central Luzon on 26th September, bringing a month’s worth of rain in just 12 hours, putting about 80 per cent of Manila underwater. The impact of the devastating typhoon caused the deaths of some 454 people and affected over 4.3 million people. More than 153,000 houses have been partially or totally damaged.



Typhoon Parma, locally known as “Pepeng,” belted Luzon, the largest of the Philippines islands on 3rd October. It caused 465 deaths and affected 4.4 million people. The typhoon brought on relentless rains, which set off landslides in the mountains and flooding elsewhere. About 56,800 houses were totally or partially damaged.

Currently, areas are still affected. Flood waters, up to a foot high remain in *barangays* (neighborhoods) of Pinagbuhatan, Banbang, Kalawaan and Sumilang in Pasig City. More than 186,000 people are still housed in makeshift evacuation centers, as many of their homes are still water-logged.

VIETNAM: Habitat for Humanity has received more funding to aid its response after Typhoon Ketsana hit Vietnam. Up to 400 more families will be served through roof repairs.

Habitat for Humanity plans to use a grant of US\$100,000 from the United Nations Office of the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs to provide roofing materials for 600 families in flood-hit Quang Nam province. The corrugated iron sheets could be reused for house reconstruction after the emergency

More than 294,000 houses were destroyed, damaged or flooded by Typhoon Ketsana's foray into eight coastal and central highland provinces. The typhoon roared into Vietnam on 29th September and left a significant trail of damage. In Quang Nam: 15,200 houses were reported to have collapsed and 155,000 others suffered substantial roof damage.

AFTERMATH: PACIFIC TSUNAMI

SAMOA: The Samoan government has decided that 425 shelters will be built in the first round of construction following the deadly impact of the tsunami waves three weeks ago. This number is based on a list of the number of affected families jointly compiled by government agencies and NGOs.

Habitat for Humanity New Zealand has been asked to project manage the building of 325 of the homes using funding from the Samoan government. Other NGOs, including faith-based groups such as Caritas and Tear Fund, have committed to funding the rebuilding of the remaining 100 houses.

The proposed *fales* (traditional house) will be 7.2 x 4.8 meters with a separate toilet, shower unit and septic tank. The government estimates that the average cost of materials for building a *fale* is Samoa tala 18,000 (US\$7,500); this figure excludes labor or other related costs.

HFH New Zealand plans to send an initial team of 12 builders, plumbers and electricians this week to begin renovations of a church hall to accommodate up to 50 volunteers and to set up a Habitat Resource Center (HRC) at Lepa on the southeast coast of Upolu. The houses will be made from kits mass-produced at the HRC. The home kits will contain all the materials needed to construct a *fale* in one or two days.

The second volunteer team will come in early November to start the rebuilding project in earnest.

HFH New Zealand plans to provide volunteer Kiwi skilled labor to facilitate and lead the six-month rebuilding program. Under the plan, each week about 25 volunteers, who will pay their own way, will come to Samoa for a two-week period. In practice, build teams will comprise six to eight local Samoans working alongside two New Zealand skilled volunteers.

The Australian and New Zealand governments are giving about 20 million Tala (US\$9.06million) to the Samoan government. The Australian funding comes with a condition that all materials are to be purchased locally as a way to help stimulate the local economy after the tsunami.

On 29th September, an earthquake of 8.3-magnitude triggered deadly tsunami waves that bashed into Samoa, American Samoa and Tonga. The tsunamis killed around 200 people on the three islands. Some 20 villages were destroyed in Samoa, leaving 3,500 people homeless.



AFTERMATH: FLOODS IN INDIA

INDIA: Habitat for Humanity has confirmed its plans to help families severely affected by widespread recent flooding in India.

In the state of Andhra Pradesh, HFH India will provide 2,000 families with shelter relief through repairs and renovations of their existing homes.



A similar exercise in Karnataka state will assist 1,000 families. HFH India has the funds needed to carry out this two-state initiative which will include a disaster-migration component and a water and sanitation program.

In the second, rebuilding, phase, HFH India plans to work with the state government of Andhra Pradesh's housing corporation. The initial project would be to reconstruct 2,000 houses damaged by the flooding. The state government has announced a rebuilding grant of Rs.68,450 (US\$1,500) per house. Habitat will contribute a further Rs.10,000 (US\$550) per house. The project is expected to start in the first quarter of 2010.

HFH India aims to raise more than US\$1 million from Indian businesses and supporters for the reconstruction of homes in Karnataka.

The worst floods in the states of Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka in 100 years left a trail of destruction. In Andhra Pradesh, the floods were estimated to have caused enormous damage to the lives and properties of nearly 17 lakh (1.7 million) people.

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FOR MORE INFORMATION

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