



# KHMER HARVEST BUILD

NOVEMBER 15 -19, 2011  
OUDONG, KANDAL, CAMBODIA

## New Homes and A Farm

One of the greatest challenges families faced when they relocated to a new community in Oudong, Kandal province from a municipal dumpsite in Phnom Penh was finding steady work.

Habitat for Humanity Cambodia is working together with International Children's Care Australia (ICCA) to develop a farm on two hectares of land. ICCA is providing agriculture and management training with the goal of turning the farm over to the community in three years' time.

The farm will grow fruits and vegetables that Cambodians consume on a daily basis, with other areas set aside for raising chickens and fish. Initially, produce will be sold locally. Later, to increase incomes, markets will be sought further afield.



**T**he Kingdom of Cambodia, located in the heart of Southeast Asia, is an ancient land with a young population. The median age is 22 years. Known for its historical temple complex at Angkor, Cambodian kings once ruled over a vast domain that stretched from Vietnam to China to the Bay of Bengal.

Cambodia today is emerging from a traumatic past involving the communist Khmer Rouge regime, and is one of the twenty poorest countries in the world. According to a United Nations 2010 Human Development report, over 26 percent of its 13.9 million population lives on the equivalent of less than US\$1.25 a day. The majority of children, families and communities live in desperate poverty and struggle to meet the most basic needs of food, clean water and shelter without assistance.

In the capital of Cambodia, Phnom Penh, there is a sprawling 11.3-acre dumpsite at Steung Meanchey where hundreds of families once lived and worked in appalling conditions. Before the site was closed in July 2009, hundreds of people, most of them children, scavenged through the 900 tons of trash dumped each day. The air was thick with plumes of black smoke and toxic gases rising from the stinking refuse. Although the dumpsite has been closed, families still live among the rubbish in inadequate and insecure shelter, without safe water, sanitary facilities and a means of livelihood, making them even more vulnerable.

Habitat for Humanity's Khmer Harvest Build will build new lives for these families.





## Khmer Harvest Build

The Khmer Harvest Build offers a unique Habitat for Humanity opportunity for volunteers to come to Cambodia to build affordable homes for families who used to live on the Steung Meanchey municipal dumpsite.

From 15 to 19 November 2011, volunteers will work alongside families to build 22 houses in Oudong, Kandal province, about 40 km. outside of Cambodia's capital city Phnom Penh. Volunteers will spend three days building homes, one day working on a farm, and one day making bricks using greener building technology.

## Highlights Of The Build

- **JOIN** international volunteers from around the world for the Khmer Harvest Build. Cambodia is a favorite destination for Habitat for Humanity volunteer builders. In 2010 nearly 700 Habitat volunteers from Australia, United States, New Zealand, Canada, China, Qatar, Singapore and Great Britain came to build.
- **WORK** with Khmer families to build 22 homes in just five days; the homes will be built on secure land. Each will have sanitation facilities, a safe water connection, a rainwater collection tank and a solar-energy panel.
- **CONTRIBUTE** to the development of a new community of affordable housing.
- **HELP** home partners raise chicken, fish and vegetables on a nearby cooperative farm which provides sustainable livelihood opportunities for Habitat families.
- **LEARN** to make greener, handmade soil blocks that will be used to build future homes.
- **CELEBRATE** the two-year anniversary of the Jimmy and Rosalynn Carter Work Project, The Mekong Build. Oudong was one of five sites across Asia.
- **DISCOVER** the color, culture and cuisine of Phnom Penh, a city of diverse economic and urban development located where the Tonle Sap, Bassac and Mekong rivers meet.



## Habitat for Humanity CAMBODIA

Since January 2003, Habitat for Humanity Cambodia's housing and community development programs in Phnom Penh, Siem Reap, Prey Veng and Kandal have aimed to reduce poverty by empowering communities to improve their access to better living conditions.

HFH Cambodia has a five-year strategic initiative to assist 10,000 low-income families while inspiring individuals, groups, organizations and the government to champion innovative housing solutions for Cambodians in need.

The Khmer Harvest Build will build on the work begun during the 2009 Carter Work Project. Then 21 houses were built in five days for the New Life Community. Later more land was secured to build fifty more homes for families relocating from the Steung Meanchey dumpsite. The Khmer Harvest Build will build homes for 22 of these 50 families.



### Habitat for Humanity Cambodia

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