**Women Build [Habitat for Humanity – Nicaragua]**

**Problem Statement**

In developing countries, women disproportionately lack access to many of the prerequisites required for adequate housing including access to credit, education, training and the right to own or transfer land. Due to over-crowding, lack of privacy, unsanitary conditions and unstable buildings, inadequate housing poses additional dangers to women’s safety and health. Women are also more prone to evictions due to entrenched patriarchal roles and practices, and only 2% of registered land rights in the developing world are owned by women. Furthermore, women in developing countries are often unable to rise out of their poverty due to a lack of access to affordable financing and economic opportunities.

**Our Goal**

Habitat for Humanity in Nicaragua’s mission is to bring about significant and lasting change by empowering women in Mexico, Nicaragua, and Peru through information and resources that provide access to opportunities to grow their home-based business, and incremental or whole house improvement to build a firm pathway to improved quality of life. Through the creation of a sustainable and unique package of services, information and resources, enables women and men, with a little support and access to financial resources, to design and implement their own plan to improve housing.

**Our Work**

Habitat’s Terwilliger Center has developed financing models for home improvements in Peru, Bolivia, DR, Mexico, El Salvador, Nicaragua, generating 244,845 microloans. In Honduras, they promoted 24 municipal housing policies, impacting 1,800 families – while Mexico HFH worked with the government to change the rules of a federal grant program, benefitting 9,000 very poor families.

**Looking Forward**