

Broader Impacts of Housing

Reframing donor priorities
to align with housing goals



Defining 'impact'



DIRECT

Effects caused by an action and occurring at the same time and place



INDIRECT

Effects caused by an action that is later time or farther removed in distance, or as a result of a pathway of effects



CUMULATIVE

Effects as a result of incremental changes caused by an action together with other actions



Direct Impacts

- Climate protection
- Immediate safety and security
- Privacy and dignity
- Facilitating access to additional services

Indirect & Cumulative

Human Development

- Health
- Livelihood
- Social Cohesion
- Education
- Gender
- Food Security

Economic Development

- Economic Growth
- Equality

Environment

- Risk reduction & resilience

Human Development Impacts of Housing



Health

Housing interventions can **reduce doctor's visits and lower healthcare spending and hospitalization rates.**

(BRE, 2016; Nicol et al, 2011)



Housing **improves the health of young children** by reducing incidences of parasitic infections, diarrhea, anemia, and enhances children's cognitive development

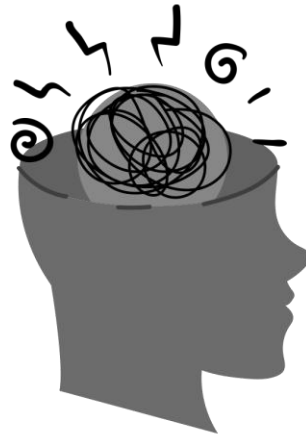
Potential interventions

Construct / repair / renovate houses to improve the ff:

- Ventilation and raised housing
- Sealed flooring and raised bedding (e.g. not dirt floor)
- Space for everyone (reduce overcrowding)
- Access to green spaces
- WASH
- Insulation for both warm/cold climates

Mental health

Housing improves adult welfare, increases levels of satisfaction, happiness, and quality of life



Lowers scores of depression and perceived stress

After receiving shelter, people feel more in control and have better decision-making capacities



Fewer doctor's visits

(Brown, 2017)

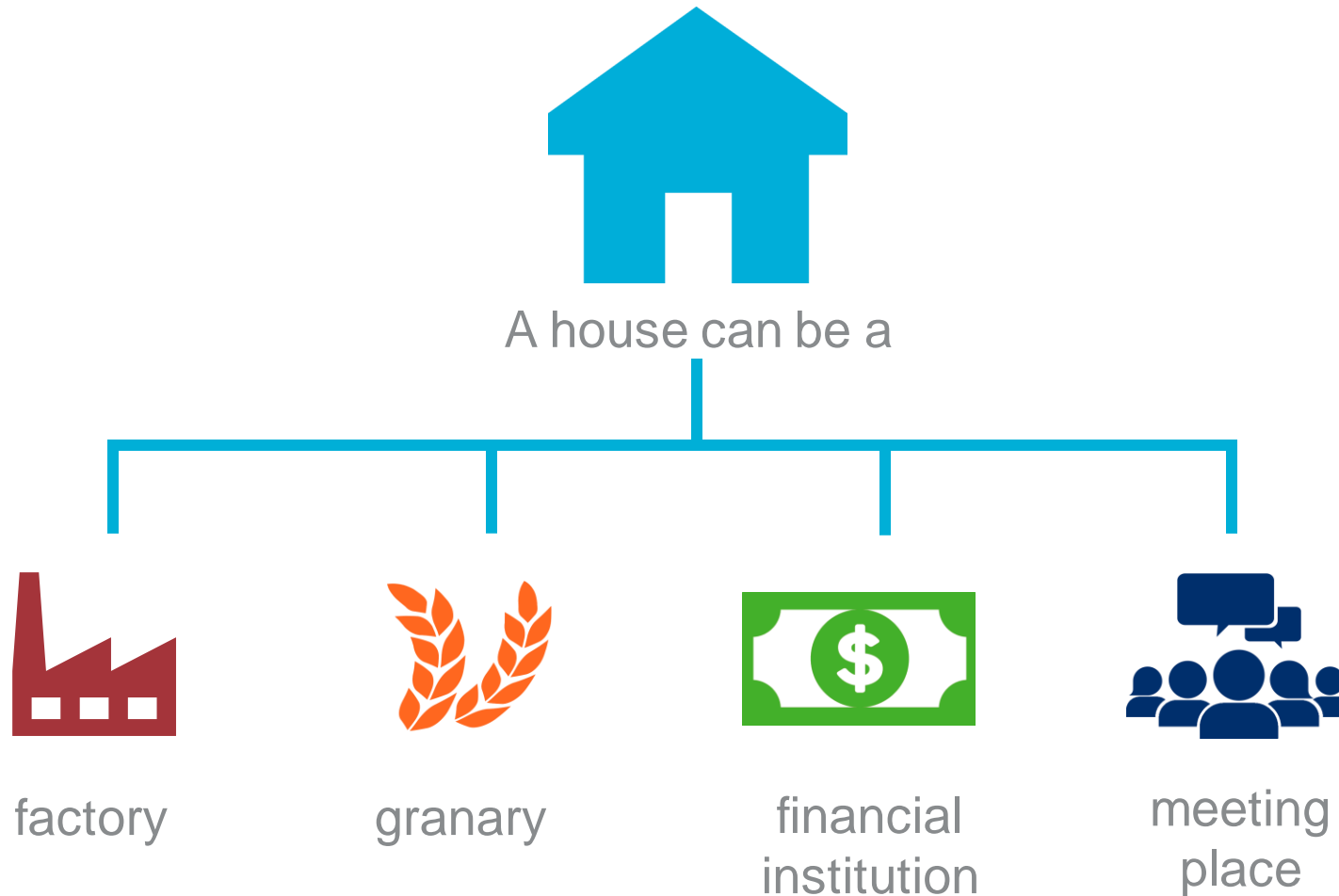
(Cattaneo et al, 2009)

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- WASH

Livelihood



(Setchell, 2001)

Potential interventions

Construction / repair / improvement

- House extensions/improvement for retail store, workshops, or storage for harvested crops
- Improve access to basic services and utilities
- Upscaling of home-based livelihoods for increased income generation

Capacity Development

- Other home-based enterprise development training
- Financial literacy training

Advocacy

- Promoting affordable housing for asset accumulation to access loan

Food security



There is **direct relationship** between homelessness and access to food.

(Dachner and Tarasuk, 2002)

Potential interventions

Construction / repair / improvement

- House extensions/improvement for retail store, workshops, or storage for harvested crops
- Improve access to basic services and utilities


Capacity Development

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Gender



Improving housing is linked to **increased maternal happiness.**

(Cattaneo et al, 2009)



Women in India who own land are up to **eight times less likely to experience domestic violence** than those who don't own land.

(Landesa, 2015)

Potential interventions

Construction / repair / improvement

- Construct or repair houses to include the specific needs of women/girls (e.g. separate rooms)
- Preferential option for households headed by women / single mothers when constructing/repairing houses

Capacity Development

- Programs that support land ownership

Education



Adequate housing improves **academic achievement** among low-income students.

(Brown, 2017)

“(R)eplacing dirt floors with cement ones is at least as effective as nutritional supplementation and early childhood cognitive stimulation.”

(Cattaneo et al, 2009)

Potential interventions

Construction / repair / improvement

- Ventilation
- Electrification
- Space for studying (reduce overcrowding)

Advocacy

- Promote access to affordable housing and security of land tenure

Social cohesion

Affordable housing and settlement upgrading can increase



(Brown, 2017)

Potential interventions

Construction / repair / improvement

- Creation of public and open spaces in the neighborhood
- Building of community centers to promote greater social cohesion and more inclusive decision making

Capacity development

- Community leadership training
- Participatory Approach to Safe Shelter and Settlements Awareness (PASSA)

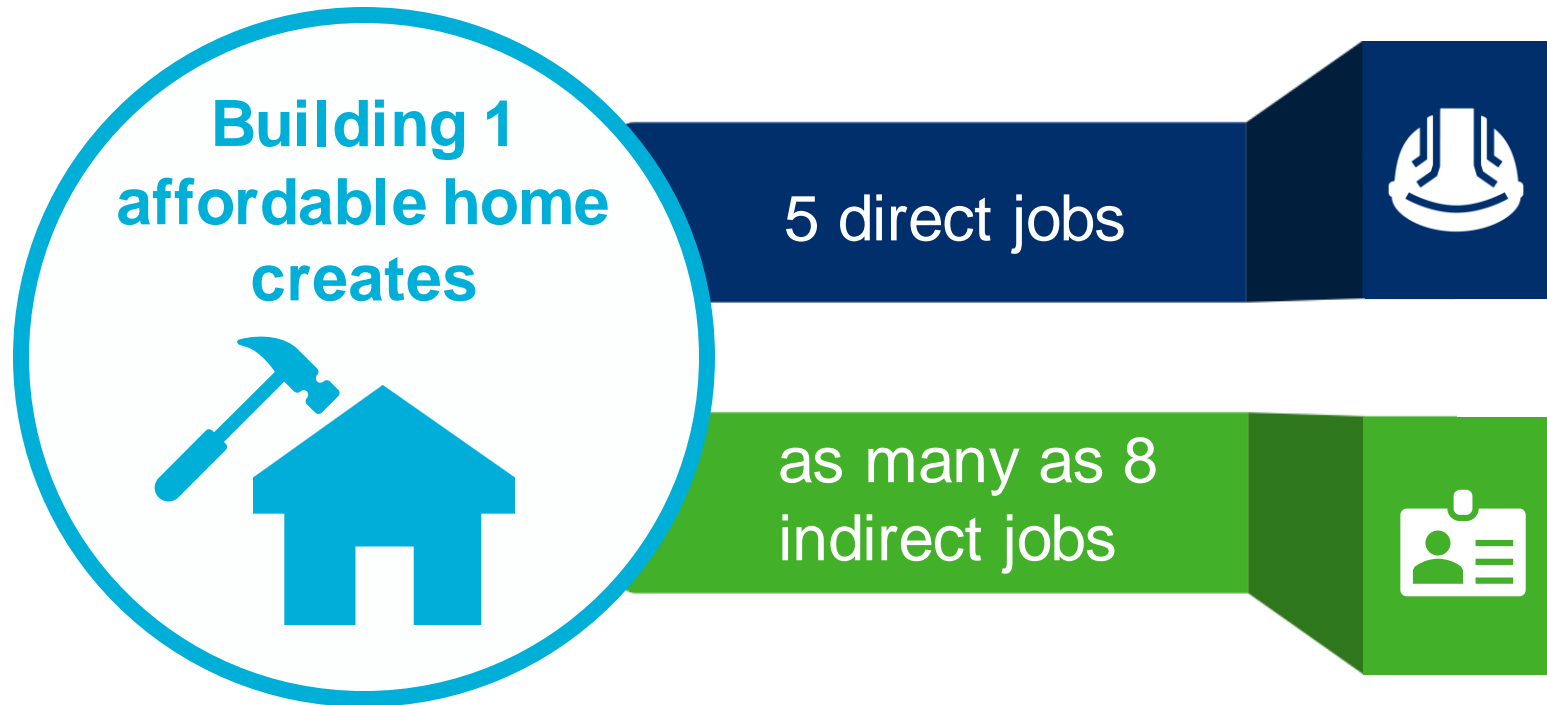
Advocacy

- Facilitating better local government engagement to promote community needs and priorities and increase accountability in meeting them (e.g. participation on local policymaking)

Economic Development Impacts of Housing



Economic growth



(World Bank, 2015)

Potential interventions

Construction / repair / improvement

- Direct employment of skilled and non-skilled workers
- Cash for work

Capacity Development

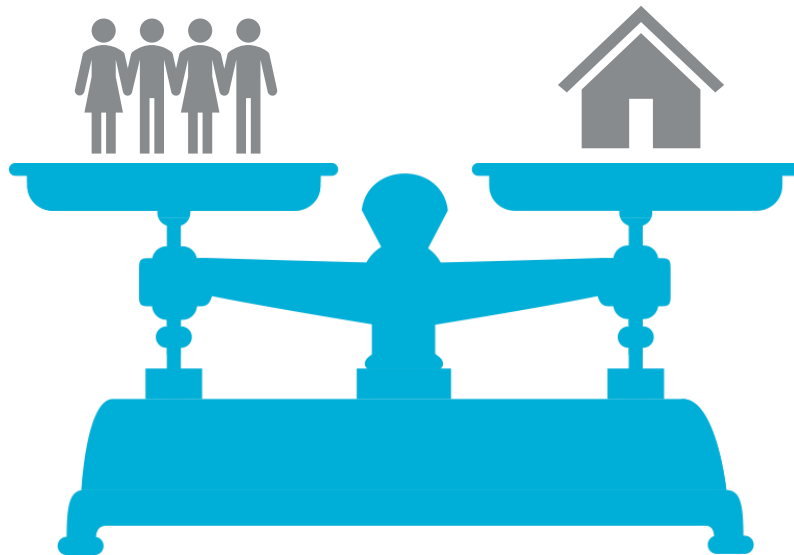
- Construction skills
- Safer construction

Others

- Provision of construction tools

Equality

Several demographic and socioeconomic characteristics of neighborhoods have been found to **influence equal access to opportunities.**



(Habitat for Humanity, 2020)

Potential interventions

Construction / repair / improve

- Improve public amenities / services (street lighting, sewage system, drainage, waste disposal system, sidewalks in good condition, trees in the street)

Capacity Development

- Relevant training for housing providers and local development planners
- Participatory Approach to Safe Shelter and Settlements Awareness (PASSA)

Environmental Impacts of Housing



Risk reduction



People with shelter assistance are safer and more self-reliant when faced with future extreme weather events.

(Levers, 2016; Murtaza and Nadi, 2012; CARE, 2015)

Potential interventions

Construction / repair / improvement

- Incorporating proper building techniques to make homes better able to withstand shocks
- Repair houses with weak structural integrity

Capacity Development

- Participatory Approach to Safe Shelter and Settlements Awareness (PASSA)