



## Country profile

# Côte d'Ivoire

### The housing need in Côte d'Ivoire

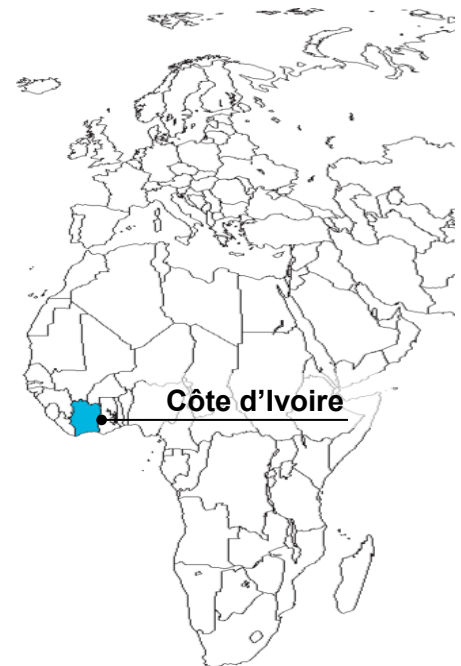
The cumulative housing deficit in Côte d'Ivoire was estimated at 600,000 units in 2022 – a gap that continues to grow. In the country's major urban center of Abidjan alone, the housing deficit is estimated to increase by 40,000 units per year.

In rural areas, 90% of people live in temporary structures, which are vulnerable to fire and require extensive upkeep and repair. Walls – typically made of mud in a wooden frame – are prone to cracking, causing leaks and eventually falling apart. Thatch-roof houses harbor numerous disease-carrying insects, such as malarial mosquitoes and the tsetse fly, which can spread eye disease. Moreover, a 2016 survey showed that only 18.1% of households possessed a pit latrine, while 92.5% used unsafe drinking water.

### HABITAT FACTS FY 24:

#### Habitat started in Côte d'Ivoire in 1999.

- Individuals served in drinking water – **1,400**
- Individuals served in sanitation facilities – **5,730**
- News houses built – **07**
- School latrines constructed – **04**
- Household latrines constructed – **946**
- Volunteers engaged – **400**
- Volunteers hours – **28,000**
- People trained – **3,410**



### COUNTRY FACTS:

**Capital** – Yamoussoukro  
**Population** – 28.2 million  
**Life expectancy** – 59 years  
**Unemployment rate** – 7%  
**Below poverty line** – 11.4%

\* International poverty line of US\$2.15  
(World Bank)

# How Habitat addresses the need

## Major programs

Habitat Côte d'Ivoire's work focuses on water, sanitation and hygiene; community-led total sanitation; housing for orphans and vulnerable groups; "Save and Build" houses; and advocacy for land property.

We work with local government departments and community members to provide sustainable solutions to housing needs, access to clean water and solutions to livelihood challenges.

Access to proper sanitation is essential, as the prevalent lack of safe water reduces school attendance and compromises health for children. Also in schools, many disabled children do not drink or even eat all day to avoid having to use toilet facilities that are improperly equipped or inaccessible.

## House construction

Many families live in mud houses or crumbling old structures. Most have leaking roofs and broken or cracked walls, which cannot keep out tropical downpours that recur during the rainy season. Habitat Côte d'Ivoire helps build houses and latrines using appropriate technology and local building materials. The designs are simple and spacious and cater to the individual families' needs, while remaining affordable for the homeowners. Houses consist of two or three bedrooms and a hall.

Recently, 48 smaller houses were built with soil blocks to help vulnerable families to improve their living conditions, essentially for elders in the village of Dida N'Glossou (Center region). In the space of a decade, the number of elderly people in Côte d'Ivoire has risen sharply (63.4%), representing an average annual growth rate of 5%.

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## What you can do

### DONATE

Please visit [habitat.org/donate](https://www.habitat.org/donate) and select "Designate your donation" to donate to Habitat Côte d'Ivoire.

### VOLUNTEER

The Global Village program is resuming region by region until a safe and quality experience can be provided at scale worldwide. Please visit [habitat.org/gv](https://www.habitat.org/gv) for more information and updates.

### TITHE

Habitat affiliates in the U.S. support the international work through an annual tithe. For additional information, email [tithe@habitat.org](mailto:tithe@habitat.org) or contact your local Habitat organization.

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