



**BUILD CHANGE**  
**Post-Earthquake Housing Reconstruction Technical Assistance Program**  
**January 12, 2010 Haiti Earthquake**  
**Program Announcement**  
Last Update: July 16, 2010

Build Change ([www.buildchange.org](http://www.buildchange.org)) is pleased to announce the start of its post-earthquake permanent housing reconstruction technical assistance program in Haiti.

Building upon Build Change's award-winning post-earthquake housing reconstruction programs in Indonesia and China, Build Change will

- (1) **DESIGN** safe houses. Complete the engineering design work for locally appropriate, low-cost, hurricane and earthquake-resistant homes, including single and two story new buildings and transitional-to-permanent houses.
- (2) **TRAIN** local builders, homeowners, staff of relief agencies, and other professionals to design and build safe houses, by adapting course curricula and resources from our Indonesia and China programs to the Haiti context.
- (3) **MASS MARKET** good construction practices using local media and strategic communications to market safe construction practices to the Haitian population.
- (4) **PROVIDE HANDS-ON TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE** directly to homeowners rebuilding and repairing their houses, by hiring and deploying local professionals during the reconstruction process.

The first three tasks are being performed with funding from private foundations and USAID Office of Foreign Disaster Assistance (OFDA) through Habitat for Humanity International - Haiti. Build Change executes its programs in service to the Haitian people, Haitian government and other humanitarian agencies working to rebuild safe houses in Haiti. To that end, Build Change will make the results of this work available to all agencies and homeowners in Haiti, with the goal of improving 50,000 houses during the course of the reconstruction. Build Change is an active member of the Haiti shelter and early recovery clusters, the Haiti Action Network of the Clinton Global Initiative, and the advisory board and jury for the Haiti Housing Expo.

To achieve the above objectives, Build Change is now

(1) **RECRUITING** for full-time, paid positions with a minimum 6 month commitment in Haiti and starting as soon as possible. Positions are described briefly below. Full position descriptions with application instructions are listed on [www.buildchange.org/jobs.html](http://www.buildchange.org/jobs.html). Qualified women, Haitian citizens, members of the Haitian diaspora, and candidates with French or Creole language skills are strongly encouraged to apply. Application Deadline: July 26, 2010.

- (1) **Structural Engineering Team Leader** – coordinates engineering design with Haitian staff and international consultants and academics, oversees development of design criteria, structural engineering analysis, structural and architectural drawings, bills of quantity, construction checklists.
- (2) **Materials Testing Team Leader** – facilitates materials testing in partnership with laboratories in Haiti and the US, identifies and evaluates new materials and supply chains for new materials.
- (3) **Construction Training Team Leader** – building on the resources developed by Build Change in Indonesia and China, develops training course curricula and executes training programs on earthquake-resistant design and construction for homeowners, builders, engineers, staff of relief agencies and government officials.



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- (4) Communications and Outreach Manager – coordinates with Haitian government and members of the relief and development community, markets Build Change's resources and services, and leads Build Change's strategic communications program on safe construction.
- (5) Monitoring and Evaluation Officer – collects baseline and impact data, writes reports to donors and partners.

To submit applications, e-mail [build.c.hire@gmail.com](mailto:build.c.hire@gmail.com).

(2) **SUBCONTRACTING** engineering consulting teams to complete structural engineering design analysis and construction resources for the housing structure types listed below. The full Request for Qualifications is available on [www.buildchange.org/haiti.html](http://www.buildchange.org/haiti.html). Deadline for SOQ: July 23, 2010. Deadline for full proposal: August 4, 2010.

- (1) Confined masonry (single and two story houses with timber, lightweight steel and reinforced concrete cast-in-place roof options)
- (2) Reinforced masonry (single and two story houses with timber, lightweight steel and reinforced concrete cast-in-place roof options)
- (3) Two and three story mixed use buildings with open ground floor for shops and upper floors for residential use (structural system to be suggested in the analysis)
- (4) Two-story timber and steel frame transitional-to-permanent houses.

For questions on consulting opportunities, e-mail [buildchange@gmail.com](mailto:buildchange@gmail.com).

(3) **PARTNERING** to achieve greater impacts. In addition, Build Change seeks to partner with other agencies and firms interested in or performing similar work. Also, Build Change invites peer reviewers for the above work.

For partnership and peer review opportunities, please contact

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### **About Build Change**

Build Change ([www.buildchange.org](http://www.buildchange.org)) is an international 501(c)3 non-profit social enterprise that designs earthquake-resistant houses in developing countries and trains builders, homeowners, engineers and government officials to build them. Build Change has ongoing post-earthquake housing reconstruction technical assistance programs in West Sumatra, Indonesia and Sichuan, China. Because of Build Change's work, over 24,000 people are living in houses that will not collapse on them in the next earthquake.

In Aceh, Indonesia (2005-2007), Build Change built 33 houses in partnership with local builders; improved the design and construction of over 4,200 houses built with partner organizations such as Catholic Relief Services, Oxfam International GB, CARE International Indonesia, International Organization for Migration; trained over 130 builders through hands-on intensive apprenticeship-type training, and trained 245 technical high school students.

In West Sumatra, Indonesia, prior to the September 30, 2009 earthquake, Build Change provided hands-on technical assistance to 655 low-income homeowners, including training on construction



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techniques and quality and assistance with choosing good quality materials. Build Change trained another 310 technical high school students, 62 teachers, and 161 employees of local Public Works departments. None of the houses that met Build Change's minimum standard for earthquake safety were damaged in the 2009 earthquake. Furthermore, surveys indicate that homeowners building new houses after Build Change left the villages used the same improvements and techniques that Build Change promoted. Since that earthquake, Build Change's program has expanded to train over 1,500 homeowners and 363 builders in safe reconstruction practices in partnership with CARE International Indonesia, Catholic Relief Services, Mercy Corps, Oxfam International GB, and Save the Children, with funding from the USAID Office of Foreign Disaster Assistance (OFDA). These agencies used Build Change resources to further improve 11,350 transitional shelters. Build Change is now deploying trained professionals to provide hands-on technical assistance to homeowners as they rebuild permanent houses.

In Sichuan, China (2008-now), Build Change performed a detailed post-earthquake technical reconnaissance to understand why buildings collapsed (and why they did not) in the May 12, 2008 earthquake; hired local construction professionals and designed culturally appropriate earthquake-resistant houses for rural farmers; and developed cost estimates, contract templates, and training materials. Build Change is currently providing training, hands-on technical assistance and inspection services on behalf of the Chinese government; improving design and construction of over 1,300 houses. As a subgrantee on a USAID OFDA grant to the Asia Foundation, Build Change has developed an earthquake-resistant construction manual and trained homeowners in safe rebuilding. Internship programs for graduates of Chinese technical high schools and training programs for government officials are starting soon.

Build Change has won grants from Echoing Green, Draper Richards Foundation, Mulago Foundation, Ashoka-Lemelson, and Alwaleed bin Talal Foundation. Build Change is a 2008 Tech Awards Laureate and winner of the Katherine M. Swanson Equality Cash Prize for making culturally appropriate, earthquake-resistant housing solutions available to all homeowners, regardless of income level. Build Change's house design for Aceh won a 2006 Excellence in Structural Engineering Award from the Structural Engineers Association of Northern California. Build Change's work has been featured on abcNEWS World News Tonight, National Public Radio All Things Considered, BBC website, Christian Science Monitor, and most recently, the New York Times. For more information, please visit [www.buildchange.org](http://www.buildchange.org).