

Akany Avoko Habitat Housing Scheme

On behalf of Akany Avoko children's home thank you for your support of our social housing project 'Habitat'. Akany Avoko takes in destitute children, cares for them and prepares them for family reunification or independent living. Part of this support is our commitment to the children's long-term future: providing a safe haven, and equipping them for life beyond Akany Avoko. We will use your donation to buy land for our graduates to build their homes on. Through your support our young adult graduates will have somewhere decent to live.

We started this programme 3 years ago and have so far built 28 houses for our neediest graduates. Suitable land was selected (left) and initial plots were chosen by lottery (centre) however destiny kept 3 sibling groups together such as Lolona and Jean Pierre pictured right.



To realise our vision of housing graduates Akany Avoko formed a working relationship with Habitat ENDA and Habitat for Humanity two locally based housing organisations. Together we introduced potential homeowners into research; investigating designs and construction methods (left). Then the hard work began! After many weekends spent digging our undulating land began to take on the look of a terraced building site (centre) and the arduous task of brick making (right)



A single story 2 bedroom house requires 13,000 bricks, some were made on site (left) Granite foundations were laid (right) and construction began for the initial 5 houses.



A few graduates received individual sponsorship to assist purchasing their house, however the majority took out a loan with a local credit union, and to date no one has defaulted.

House construction followed a variety of local techniques, including the use of low fired clay tiles and wooden shutters. To service the community a well was sunk.



The local commune representative cut the ribbon to officially open the first 15 Habitat houses promising to support the next stage (left). Happy home owners celebrated in Felicité's house (centre)



Soon a sense of community began to develop. Recently a small shop has been added for basics like rice and candles.





A snap shot of home owners (from right to left): Jean Pierre is an orphan who lived at Akany Avoko for 16 years. He now works on our security & maintenance team and is very proud to own his own home. Narindra is an orphan who grew up at Akany Avoko. She is happy to provide a cosy home for her 2 children, partner and 5 step children. Her partner built their house himself. Narindra earns her living making crafts at Akany Avoko. Mbolatiana loves her pink house! She spent her teenage years at Akany Avoko and is now a self employed hairdresser returning to teach the older girls. Justine graduated from Akany Avoko in 2001. She supports her husband and 2 children by producing crafts sold in the Akany Avoko boutique. She is very happy to have the security of her own home at last. Nirina and her husband Tina are orphans who grew up at Akany Avoko. Thanks to our 'Habitat' project they now have a secure home in which to raise their daughter Fiti.

All home owners were thrilled to move into their own house, creating cosy homes with gardens, hens and colourful paintwork. Your support has prevented Akany Avoko graduates from ever having to return to insecure housing or living on the streets again.



Everyone was jubilant when in August 2007 we installed a water pump on each of the 2 'Habitat' sites to replace the open wells. Now the home owners have access to safer drinking water. This water also supplies the communal wash facilities provided on each site.



This is the land we are buying with your donation. The houses in the background were built by Akany Avoko graduates in 2007. Once we have aquired this adjacent plot the next Akany Avoko graduates will be able to join this community.

Thank you for helping to give our graduates a home!

