

Boral partners with Habitat for Humanity for Building Community Resilience Program

Boral and Habitat for Humanity (Habitat) today officially unveiled a new community partnership, *Building Community Resilience*, which will invest in housing projects for vulnerable communities prone to natural disasters in parts of South-East Asia.

Boral's initial funding commitment will be over two and a half years with year one initiatives including two major disaster resilience building projects identified in flood prone areas in Vietnam and Indonesia.

Boral CEO & Managing Director Mike Kane said the company, its management and staff were proud to be partnering with an outstanding not-for-profit organisation such as Habitat in helping build or upgrade houses in vulnerable areas.

Mr Kane said the partnership was the latest in a long-standing tradition at Boral of contributing to community and welfare groups both in Australia and in areas overseas where Boral and its subsidiaries had a direct connection.

"Working with community groups, assisting cultural organisations and helping when natural disasters strike are all part of our DNA at Boral," he said.

"We have a long and proud history of supporting community groups and organisations that share our values and that are relevant to our people, places and products.

"For many years, our staff have also been directly and indirectly involved in raising funds, donating services and products and working closely on major projects ranging from biodiversity projects with Conservation Volunteers Australia through to Indigenous cultural and education initiatives."

Referring to the Habitat partnership, Mr Kane added: "The impact of a house goes beyond the obvious tangible benefit of a roof over a person's head. It reduces disease, increases the chance of education and provides the foundation for a much healthier and more productive life."

In addition to the *Building Community Resilience* program, Boral also announced that Habitat will become the company's "charity of choice" in times of natural disasters, as Habitat's global network allows Boral to direct emergency crisis support quickly and effectively throughout Australia, Asia and the USA.

Habitat for Humanity Australia's CEO Martin Thomas said that Habitat is extremely pleased to have Boral on board with its re-building programs. "As part of our partnership with Boral, we are working together to build or renovate 47 disaster resilient houses and 40 disaster resilient water and sanitation facilities in Quang Nam Province in Vietnam, a poor coastal region often affected by extreme weather events, such as floods and landslides.

"In Indonesia, we will be working together on an urban slum upgrade project in Jogjakarta, again focusing on building disaster resilience within the community."

Habitat was established in 1976 and is the world's number one not-for-profit provider of housing for low income families in need. On average, Habitat builds a house somewhere in the world every four minutes, with support from governments globally, private corporations and from the general public.

MEDIA RELEASE

27 October 2014



Boral's portfolio of community partnerships includes Conservation Volunteers Australia, Redkite, Bangarra Dance Theatre, Taronga Conservation Society, Outward Bound Australia, Touched by Olivia Foundation and HomeAid in the USA.

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