

<b>Country of Interest:</b>	Botswana
<b>HFH Country Office:</b>	Gaborone, Botswana
<b>HFH Address:</b>	Gaborone International Commerce Park, Plot 81, Unit 5
<b>HFH Address Cont:</b>	

<b>Construction Option</b>	<p>HFH Botswana works on renovation of existing houses or for new construction of a house. Home repairs or renovations include but are not limited to provision of materials for house completion (e.g. roofing, plastering, window panes, doors, and paint) and also materials for house extension/additional room. For new construction, the typical HFH Botswana house is 34m<sup>2</sup> which consist of 1 bedroom, kitchen and sitting room. We also provide 2 roomed and 1 roomed houses depending on the budget of the family. The family works with HFH Botswana representative to choose the construction they can afford.</p>
<b>Priority Villages</b>  (Community description)	<p>There are two possible target communities:</p> <p><b>Mahalapye</b> – Mahalapye is one of the biggest villages in Botswana. It is 198 kilometres (2 hours drive) north of Gaborone (the capital city). The line of Tropic of Capricorn is along the road just a few kilometres before reaching Mahalapye. Mahalapye is a developing village with a population of about 45 000 people.</p> <p>The village is divided into wards, which are led by chiefs. In Mahalapye there are ten Primary Schools, five Junior Secondary Schools and one Senior Secondary School. There is one government hospital and clinics around the village. Botswana Railway Headquarters are in Mahalapye and there is also the Prisons College. There many lodges in Mahalapye with good facilities. To move around the village there are some local transport that you can use. Other facilities include banking, shopping malls, post office, internet cafes and other small scale retailers. All these facilities provide both services and employment to Mahalapye community.</p> <p><b>Molepolole</b> – a semi-urban community 50km Northwest of Gaborone (the capital city).It is 30 minutes drive from Gaborone. It is one of the largest villages in Botswana, both in terms of population size and growth. The population of Molepolole is about 54,561 people.</p> <p>Molepolole is a developing village, and as headquarters of Kweneng District, Molepolole has a Rural Administrative Centre where all government departments are represented at local authority. These include primary hospital, teachers training college, institute of health sciences, nineteen primary schools, one senior secondary school, eight junior secondary schools, Botswana Defense Force air base and lands and housing offices. Other facilities found in Molepolole are banking, shopping malls, postal and internet services and other small retailers. All these facilities provide both service and employment to Molepolole community. The village is divided into wards, which are led by chiefs. To move around the village there are some local transport that you can use.</p>
<b>Preferred Build Months</b>	<p>Building continues year round. For volunteers the preferred months of construction are April to September due to high heat and rains in the other months.</p>

<b>Homeowner Education</b>	<p>HFH Botswana, along with its Affiliate committees provides a holistic support for beneficiary families within the two communities mentioned above.</p> <p>Homeowner trainings include teachings based on the traditional program that HFH Botswana offers including the basic principles of HFHI's no-profit loan policy, the revolving fund, HFH Botswana's beneficiary selection criteria, the beneficiaries sweat equity, working alongside their neighbors, etc.</p> <p>In addition, homeowner beneficiaries gain manual construction skills throughout the process and collectively benefit from community mobilization and cohesion.</p>
<b>Country Statistical Data</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Botswana has one of the highest HIV prevalence rates in the world (17.6%) and has left an estimated 20% of all children orphaned. This resulting orphaning epidemic touches every community in Botswana, but perhaps extracts the heaviest toll on poor rural families – often female-headed – who struggle to care for these children.</li> <li>• Nearly 57% of the population lives in urban areas as a result of brisk urban migration over the past two decades, but people maintain strong ties to rural villages.</li> <li>• Nearly a quarter of the population lives under the poverty line of US\$1 per day 19.4% in urban areas compared with 44.8% in rural areas.<sup>1</sup> The official unemployment rate is nearly 24% (but unofficial estimates place it closer to 40%<sup>2</sup>) and is highest amongst women and young people.<sup>3</sup></li> </ul>

<sup>1</sup> Central Statistics Office (CSO), 2003, Poverty Datum Line for Botswana; Republic of Botswana (CSO, Poverty Datum Line for Botswana; Republic of Botswana 2003)

<sup>2</sup> CIA World Fact Book, 2008 of the United States Central Intelligence Agency (CIA 2008)

<sup>3</sup> Unicef (2007)