



# WORLD HABITAT AWARDS 2014-15

BSHF is delighted to announce the winners of the 2014-15 World Habitat Awards:

- **Y-Foundation, Finland**
- **Liter of Light @ Night, Philippines**

Award presentation held at the meeting of the UN-Habitat Governing Council, Nairobi  
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**Building and Social Housing Foundation**

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## WORLD HABITAT AWARDS 2014-15

**WINNER**



Supported housing for homeless young people



Supported housing for people recovering from mental health problems

## Y-Foundation Finland

Y-Foundation has played a leading role in a policy that is on target to end long term homelessness in Finland. An early adopter of the Housing First model, Y-Foundation builds, renovates and leases buildings in over 50 towns and cities across Finland. Homes are provided through partnerships with municipalities and non-government organisations.

Y-Foundation has a strategic goal that two third of its tenants will be living independently, without any support, by 2020. The impact of the project is also about changing the attitude of Finnish society towards housing provision for homeless people and vulnerable groups. A number of private housing companies involved in construction are now trying to replicate Y-Foundation's business model.

*"What makes the work of the Y-Foundation stand out is how it has provided housing at scale in Finland, for some of the country's most vulnerable residents. It has demonstrated a model through which housing and support for other aspects such as social care could be delivered by a social enterprise through effective partnerships."*

David Ireland, BSHF Director

[www.ysaatio.fi](http://www.ysaatio.fi)



## WORLD HABITAT AWARDS 2014-15

**WINNER**



Solar nightlights in Leyte, one of the areas affected by Typhoon Haiyan



Building and installing bottle daylightlights

# Liter of Light @ Night Philippines

Recycled plastic bottles filled with water and bleach are fitted into roofs of homes in poor communities to provide daylighting and can be upgraded with an LED bulb, micro-solar panels and a battery to provide low cost night lighting. Liter of Light works with the local community to produce the lighting systems, creating jobs locally. The project has provided lighting for over 160,000 homes.

The project works with women's cooperatives to make solar nightlights from a handful of parts, including both recycled components and a new high-tech chip guaranteed to make the light last 70,000 hours. The water bottles are covered with handcrafted woven shades, providing a new outlet for local basket-weaving skills, which are otherwise no longer in demand.

*"The beauty of this system is its simplicity and the impressive scale it has reached in such a short time. One of its key features is that the materials used are locally available, easy to assemble and can be upgraded to provide low cost night lighting. The expansion of the project, achieved by embracing social media and open-source technology, has led to Liter of Light initiatives being set up around the world, lighting up 360,000 homes in over 15 countries."*

David Ireland, BSHF Director

[www.aliteroflight.org](http://www.aliteroflight.org)



## WORLD HABITAT AWARDS 2014-15

**FINALIST**

SPECIAL COMMENDATION FROM BSHF FOR OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENTS IN CHALLENGING CIRCUMSTANCES



Volunteer psychologist running an art-therapy class



One of the shelter bedrooms

### Nochlezhka

Russia

Nochlezhka provides shelters and advocacy services to help the growing number of homeless people in Saint Petersburg, where winter temperatures are extreme. Nochlezhka also challenges discrimination through the courts and through media campaigns, all within a harsh environment in which state help for homeless people is weak and there is little public sympathy for the issue.

[www.homeless.ru](http://www.homeless.ru)



## WORLD HABITAT AWARDS 2014-15

**FINALIST**



Bio-gas mini-grid ensures 24 hour street lighting, Nepal



Members of the all-female 'Miracle Group' cast bricks for construction, Zimbabwe

### Community-Led Infrastructure Finance Facility (CLIFF)

Asia and Africa

CLIFF helps establish organisations in Asia and Africa that provide slum dwellers with affordable housing finance. The approach facilitates the construction of affordable homes and generates enough financial return to allow the organisations it funds to achieve financial sustainability. CLIFF has supported more than 70 housing and infrastructure projects in fourteen countries.

<http://reall.xyz/our-approach/cliff>



## WORLD HABITAT AWARDS 2014-15

### FINALIST



Resident building the wall of the family house



Residents outside their new home

### Upgrading of Audi União Shantytown, Curitiba Brazil

This project has protected households living in high-risk areas on the banks of the River Iguaçu by providing safer and improved living conditions whilst avoiding evictions, ensuring families can stay in the same community. It has an integrated and participatory approach involving partnerships between the local community, local leaders, civil society organisations and local, state and national government agencies.

[www.caixa.gov.br/melhorespraticas](http://www.caixa.gov.br/melhorespraticas)



## WORLD HABITAT AWARDS 2014-15

### FINALIST



Education programme for children



Training in housebuilding using reinforced adobe

### Rural habitat improvements El Salvador

Chagas disease is spread by insects that live in cracks in poor quality housing. This project has helped to significantly reduce the incidence of the disease and other illnesses related to poor housing by enabling 300 families in the worst affected areas to improve their housing. The project uses locally sourced materials, trains local people and embeds knowledge within communities.

[www.fundasal.org.sv](http://www.fundasal.org.sv)



## WORLD HABITAT AWARDS 2014-15

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SPECIAL COMMENDATION FROM BSHF FOR OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENTS IN CHALLENGING CIRCUMSTANCES



Training workshop on mud plastering



The community casts the adobe bricks used for construction

### Indigenous people building their homes

Mexico

This community-led project focuses on ensuring the right to adequate, affordable, environmentally sustainable housing for low-income indigenous families in rural areas, while preserving traditional culture and building practices. It provides technical assistance and a fund to purchase materials; enabling people to build their own homes using traditional building practices and locally available materials.

[www.copevi.org](http://www.copevi.org)



## WORLD HABITAT AWARDS 2014-15

**FINALIST**



Volunteers train rural women in safe building techniques



Good quality bricks are the cornerstone of safe building

### Build Back Safer with Traditional Construction Methods

Pakistan

In 2011 848,000 houses were destroyed and 9.7 million people affected by severe floods in western Pakistan. This project provided support to some of the most vulnerable families to build over 20,000 flood resistant houses based on local and traditional building designs. Water resistant and lighter weight materials, such as lime and bamboo were introduced, creating huge savings in cost and embodied carbon.

[www.heritagefoundationpak.org](http://www.heritagefoundationpak.org)



## WORLD HABITAT AWARDS 2014-15

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SHSE building with 20 apartments in Belgrade



Community organised landscape improvement

### Social Housing in Supportive Environments (SHSE) Serbia

SHSE has played a significant role in providing new permanent housing for many of the displaced people housed in government-run collective centres which provided shelter but had inadequate sanitation and little privacy, thus enabling many of the collective centres to be closed. The programme connects people to a “host family”, who provide support to help people re-integrate into society.

[www.housingcenter.org.rs](http://www.housingcenter.org.rs)



## WORLD HABITAT AWARDS 2014-15

### FINALIST



Family employing a local bricklayer



Bricklaying septic tank

### Social Inclusion and Improvement of Living Conditions for Roma Serbia

This project seeks to improve housing conditions and better integrate Roma people within wider Serbian society. It upgrades houses, improves sanitation, helps to improve school attendance and helps people into work. The project’s ‘Dweller-driven Upgrading of Roma Settlements Model’ is now being successfully scaled up across the country.

[www.ehons.org](http://www.ehons.org)

# BUILDING AND SOCIAL HOUSING FOUNDATION (BSHF)

BSHF identifies and supports the transfer of housing practice which aims to provide decent homes for people in different contexts around the world. We work in collaboration with a wide range of partners and networks to run research and development programmes which focus on ways of improving people's access to decent housing.

BSHF funds and co-ordinates the World Habitat Awards, in partnership with UN-Habitat.

Find out more about our work at [www.bshf.org](http://www.bshf.org)

 @bshf





## WORLD HABITAT AWARDS

The World Habitat Awards recognise innovative, sustainable and scalable solutions to housing challenges facing communities around the world.

Winning projects receive:

- International recognition for their innovative practices
- The opportunity for transfer of their award-winning project through a BSHF-funded peer-exchange
- A cash prize of £10,000
- A trophy presented at a UN-Habitat global event

For further details and an online entry form visit [www.worldhabitatawards.org](http://www.worldhabitatawards.org)

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