GRAND OPENING OF NEW BUILD CHANGE OFFICE IN BANDUNG, WEST JAVA!

Build Change Indonesia are excited to announce the opening of their new office in Bandung, West Java. This expansion of Build Change’s work in Indonesia is being celebrated at a Grand Opening at the Horison Hotel on 04th February at 2pm.

Guests will be treated to an excellent programme of events which will highlight Build Change’s work and achievements in Indonesia through presentations, demonstrations and photographic exhibitions.

Gordon Goodell will deliver a special presentation on the build change experience in Haiti with a special focus on opportunities for Indonesia and retrofitting.

There will be refreshments, entertainment and guests will have the opportunity to meet several members of Build Change staff to discuss our goals, mission and passion for what we do. As a result of this demonstration of Build Change’s commitment to work in Indonesia, we hope to further enhance our relationships with existing partners and create new alliances which will help the West Java operations to be a success.

Build Change Indonesia Impacts

In total, Build Change has:

- Improved the design and/or construction of more than 17,540 homes
- Trained approximately 4,565 builders, construction professionals and government officials
- Empowered over 5,250 homeowners with knowledge about safe construction
- Trained 4,330 vocational students, 340 teachers and 211 education supervisors

Our Mission: To greatly reduce deaths, injuries and economic losses caused by housing collapses due to earthquakes in developing countries.
BUILD CHANGE VISION

(1) All houses built with inputs from Build Change in seismically active developing countries are resistant to earthquakes and other natural disasters.

(2) Building codes are enforced or construction practices are permanently changed so that houses built in the absence of external funding and technical support are also earthquake resistant.

Creating positive, sustainable change in construction practice of safe homes for the most common building types, and making these available to all income levels, is the goal of Build Change’s reconstruction program in Indonesia.

Brick Making Cooperative development—Padang

Build Change has initiated a research project in Padang to investigate whether the setting up of a brick-makers cooperative could improve the practices and quality standards of traditional brick making enterprises.

Due to the numerous difficulties encountered by traditional brickmakers, bricks are often low quality and result in poor construction vulnerable to earthquakes.

Joep de Boer of Eindhoven University of Technology, the Netherlands, is heading up this research project where he will work closely with traditional brick makers in the Pasir Putih area to investigate the barriers and opportunities for improving brick making enterprises.

Our Model works because it is:

- **Consistent** with local culture: using local materials and resources.
- **Inclusive**: We involve everyone in the reconstruction effort.
- **Affordable**: We use low or no-cost construction improvements.
- **Sustainable**: We deliver long term change in construction practice.
- **Scalable**: By ‘Training the Trainer’ our vocational training programs ensure our techniques can be spread throughout Indonesia.

Build Capacity of Construction Material Producers and Suppliers

Build Change collaborates with local small- to medium-sized brick producers and suppliers to develop cooperatives which produce and distribute improved-quality materials for the construction process and increase market demand for their products.

Benefits include:

- Improves the quality of bricks to meet minimum earthquake-resistant standards
- Improves cash flow and the livelihoods of both the small-business owners and workers
- Enables quality brick makers to access to new markets
- Heightens the profitability of their brick products
- Reduces environmental impacts
- Stimulates job creation and the local economy
Build Change Primer on Post-Disaster Housing Reconstruction

Approved by USAID

Build Change developed a primer on post-disaster housing reconstruction that was recently approved by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID). This Primer, entitled “Building Back Housing in Post-Disaster Situations - Basic Engineering Principles for Development Professionals: A Primer,” provides USAID officers and host country officials with the steps, principles and best practices to properly and successfully carry out homeowner-driven housing construction and reconstruction in a post-disaster situation. The Primer also provides a road map on how to develop a project through planning, design and implementation.

The homeowner-driven approach outlined in the Primer takes a fundamental shift in the way post-disaster reconstruction is delivered. This approach -- proven in Indonesia, China and Haiti -- empowers homeowners to drive the reconstruction process and creates lasting change in construction practice so that local builders, engineers and homeowners build safe houses in the future -- even after funding and technical assistance cease.

Dr. Hausler Strand just presented this Primer at the USAID Post-Disaster Infrastructure Reconstruction (PDIR) workshop in Washington, D.C. At this workshop, she also discussed the challenges of transitioning from "temporary" shelters to long-term, permanent housing, shared best practices on implementing a retrofit program in Haiti and talked about the possibilities of replicating this program in other seismically active developing countries.

“Now I can breathe more easily, knowing my house is earthquake resistant.” - Eva, Padang Alai

Build Change Student Training Programs—A Great Success

Build change has been training students since 2010, in particular, vocational students majoring in construction for X, XI, XII grades. To date, 4,330 students have been trained by Build Change across West Sumatra and Bengkulu with the assistance of generous sponsorship from Caterpillar.

The 3 day programs focus on Construction Standards, Earthquakes, Bills of Quantity and typical Housing structures. They also receive hands-on training in steel assembly, batterboard and brick laying. Students are initially assessed on their knowledge of Earthquake Resistant Design and Construction which has typically demonstrated their comprehension of these issues to be about 50%. After completion of the training course, the students show a more in--depth understanding of ERDC and considerably improved their marks in the final exam.

After they graduate, students can incorporate the principles of ERDC learned through the Build Change training programs to help their communities to use improved building techniques which will reduce the number of casualties and damaged homes when earthquakes strike.
Vocational Training

Build Change designed, tested and refined a comprehensive vocational training in earthquake-resistant design and construction (ERDC) that educates teachers, students and education bureau officials about appropriate earthquake resistant construction techniques.

Student Training. Build Change’s training also includes interactive seminars and hands-on training for technical high school students. Our curriculum teaches them about ERDC practices and construction site safety as well as helps them develop important leadership skills.

Teacher Training. The teacher training program includes a combination of classroom seminars, practical exercises and demonstrations on how to read a drawing, estimate quantities, choose good quality materials, design and build safe timber and confined masonry houses and select and oversee a qualified builder. After teachers learn about ERDC, Build Change mentors and monitors them in the classroom as they incorporate ERDC training into their curriculum.

Partnership Building. As a part of our training program, Build Change collaborates with the local education bureaus, private institutions, the National Disaster Agency technical branch (BNPB-TPT) and other relief agencies to ensure that they understand ERDC, can enforce building codes and standards, institutionalize the ERDC training course into the vocational school curriculum as well as train other communities about ERDC practices to reach even more families.

5th Asian Ministerial Conference on Disaster Relief Reduction

Build Change attended the 5th Asian Ministerial Conference on DRR in Yogyakarta on 22nd-25th October 2012 where, 2,600 participants from 72 countries resolved to incorporate the recommendations of this declaration into policies, strategies, and action plans of Government, as appropriate, and report their implementation at the Sixth AMCDRR in 2014.

Build Change Indonesia’s Program Manager, Tom Corcoran is pictured here talking with the Indonesian President Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono.

Bandung 5k Family Fun Run

Build Change will be hosting a 5k Family Fun run in Bandung later this year. Whether you run, walk or talk your way along, this promises to be a great social day out for all ages and athletic abilities.

We hope to raise awareness of the principles of ERDC behind Build Change’s work in Indonesia and also to raise funds for our ongoing projects.

Event details will be finalised in the coming weeks so check our website or follow us on facebook so you don’t miss out!