Peace Corps service is a life-defining leadership experience. Thousands of new Volunteer jobs are available for 2011 and beyond. Peace Corps Volunteers live, learn, and work with a community overseas for 27 months, providing technical assistance in six program areas: education, youth and community development, health, business and information and communications technology, agriculture, and environment. We are looking for applicants with a variety of skills and are actively recruiting to reflect the diversity of America. Peace Corps provides Volunteers with language, cross-cultural, and technical training.

We recommend you submit your application as early as possible so we can match your skills to openings as they become available. Plan ahead and apply nine months to a year in advance of your target departure date. An expressed interest in a program area, volunteer experience, a college degree, and a commitment to public service are helpful in securing a Volunteer assignment. To be eligible for service, you must be at least 18 years of age and a U.S. citizen.

Environment Volunteers

Environmental damage can have enormous consequences to a community’s livelihood. Peace Corps Volunteers strengthen communities’ understanding of environmental issues, providing people with the knowledge to develop their own programs and make their own choices about how to best protect and preserve the local environment.

Programs and Sample Projects

Environmental Education and Awareness

- Teach environmental education in elementary and secondary schools and promote environmental awareness to groups and individuals outside school settings
- Assist environmental groups and nongovernmental organizations in management and development
- Promote sustainable use of natural resources
- Teach soil conservation, forestry, and vegetable gardening practices

Forestry

- Establish forest conservation plans and develop alternatives to wood as a fuel source
- Work on soil conservation and reforestation projects
- Improve agroforestry practices, such as fruit production
- Preserve biodiversity near national parks or other reserves
- Work on watershed management and flood control projects

Protected Areas Management

- Conduct community-based conservation, such as sustainable use of forest or marine resources
- Promote ecotourism and other income-generating activities for communities living near protected areas
- Oversee technical training of park managers
What Makes a Successful Volunteer

From the application process through completion of service, successful Peace Corps Volunteers demonstrate motivation, flexibility, curiosity, cultural sensitivity, leadership, and a commitment to service.

Launch Your Career

Peace Corps Volunteers who served in the field of environment have gone on to careers with a variety of leading environment and development institutions, including: U.S. Forest Service, National Park Service, Bureau of Land Management, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, the National Science Foundation, United Nations Environment Program, and many private and nongovernmental organizations. Visit our website to learn how returned Peace Corps Volunteers receive advantages in federal employment.

Benefits of Peace Corps Service

• Language, cross-cultural, and technical training
• Travel costs to and from the country of service covered
• Stipend for overseas living and housing expenses
• Medical and dental coverage
• Student loan deferment and partial cancellation of some loans
• Vacation time
• Transition funds of $7,425 (before taxes) following 27 months of service
• Career and transition assistance
• Advantages with Peace Corps graduate school partners
• No fee to participate

“To see the look on farmers’ faces when they realize how we can actually manage water and not be at the mercy of it is truly inspiring.”

Gregory “Jake” Wilson
Volunteer in Lithuania and Malawi

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