Peace Corps | Community Economic Development



Peace Corps Volunteers provide technical assistance to countries that have requested it in a wide variety of Volunteer positions throughout the world. All Volunteers serve in six general work areas: Agriculture, Community Economic Development, Education, Environment, Health, and Youth in Development.

Search for currently available opportunities at peacecorps.gov/openings. Each posted opportunity includes apply by and departure dates. We recommend that you submit your application as early as possible: The sooner you apply, the sooner you could be invited to be a Peace Corps Volunteer.

Community Economic Development Volunteers

Peace Corps Volunteers help strengthen infrastructure and encourage economic opportunities in communities overseas. Volunteers support communities through business development and advising, urban and regional planning, and computer science.

Programs and Sample Projects

Business Advising

- Teach business courses and English
- Train and advise communities in business planning, marketing, financial management, and product design
- Develop and write project funding proposals and assist with microfinance programs

Nongovernmental Organization Development

• Train rural groups and local leaders to build organizational capacity through improved leadership and communications skills

- Help identify sources of program funding and other support and assist with grant proposal preparation
- Help local entities with strategic planning and program assessment and promote active community participation

Business Development

- Consult with local businesses and conduct seminars on starting a business, strategic planning, marketing, merchandising, organizational development, and tourism development
- Develop business education curriculum, design training materials, and work with women and minority groups to strengthen their participation in the economic system

Urban and Regional Planning

- Assess the impact of planned activities or economic and environmental development on communities
- Assist in infrastructure planning for primary and secondary cities
- Assist with the creation and control of project budgets



www.peacecorps.gov/business



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 business or small enterprise development have gone on to careers with a variety of leading business and development institutions, many have even launched their own businesses. 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
- More than \$8,000 (pre-tax) after two years of service to help you transition to life back home.
- Career and transition assistance
- Advantages with Peace Corps graduate school partners
- No fee to participate

"I was a Peace Corps Volunteer right out of college. After that experience of independence and some hardship, starting a business didn't seem scary at all."

> Reed Hastings, Netflix Founder and CEO Peace Corps Volunteer in Swaziland

Make a difference. Be a Volunteer.



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