# 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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