

Global Water and Peace Corps Collaboration



Executive Summary

Objective

Global Water is part of a unique collaborative effort in Guatemala called the “Healthy Schools Program.” This effort has developed over the years informally between Global Water, a local Guatemalan non-governmental organization (NGO), and Peace Corps volunteers. We’ve funded dozens of schools now through this program in Guatemala and our objective is to expand the program to include village projects and to spread this program within Guatemala and to additional countries. This collaborative project has the potential to become a major program that could support water oriented technical work of Peace Corps volunteers around the world.

Description

The US Peace Corps has volunteers throughout the world. Often, these individuals have the desire and passion to build needed water, sanitation and hygiene related facilities for the communities they are working with, but lack the construction expertise to actually build such facilities. For many years, Global Water has received requests from Peace Corps volunteers to help them with construction information and funding. Global Water saw this as an opportunity to assist Peace Corps volunteers and created “how to” instructional guides to allow anyone to learn how to build these worthwhile and needed facilities. Currently, these construction guides are available on the Global Water website and include hand washing stations, water storage tanks, seepage pits, spring protection/catchment systems and latrines.

Peace Corps volunteers can identify new projects for rural villages and schools and with Global Water’s construction instructions can find local masons to help build facilities. In addition, Peace Corps volunteers can provide day-to-day supervision of water-related projects as well as lead hygiene education programs once the facilities are built. Besides the construction instructional guides, Global Water provides the technical and fiscal management needed to successfully execute projects through this innovative collaboration with Peace Corps volunteers.

Solution

The Global Water and Peace Corps Collaboration has the potential to become a major program that could support water, sanitation and hygiene related projects around the world. Due to the presence of Peace Corps volunteers in remote rural parts of developing countries and Global Water’s ability to manage and finance technical projects, this proposed collaboration would have far reaching positive impacts.

The rural communities that Global Water works with in developing countries have no political power, have no visibility and have no voice in the discussion of the human right to water. In all of our projects we try to give them a voice in the world to say: “yes, everyone deserves the right to safe water.”

Please contact Global Water if you’d like to consider funding this program. info@globalwater.org