“On-the-ground” in an age of global change

By Ted Adams
Office of Strategic Partnerships,
Volunteering and National Service
Peace Corps Mission: Promote peace and good will

Goal 1: Build Local Capacity

Goal 2: Share America with the World

Goal 3: Bring the World Back Home
Who Volunteers

Current Volunteers & Trainees: 7,000+

Total Americans who have served: 215,000+

Volunteers range in age from 20-79

- 38% Male
- 62% Female

94% of Volunteers have at least an undergraduate degree.

7% Married

22% Minorities

8% Over 50
What Volunteers Do

- Education
- Health
- Community Economic Development
- Environment
- Youth in Development
- Agriculture
Peace Corps & Capacity-Building

- 27 months
- Language training
- Mostly rural placements
- Invited / priorities set by host governments
Volunteers work in:

- Education: 38%
- Health: 24%
- Community Economic Development: 9%
- Environment: 12%
- Youth in Development: 9%
- Agriculture: 5%
- Peace Corps Response: 3%
Community Resilience and Climate Change

Map of most vulnerable areas
Climate Change in Volunteer Communities

Connect The Dots

Many communities burn wood to cook and fuel their home.

However, deforestation prevents a community to be ready for climate change.

With a changing climate, the frequency of natural disasters has increased in recent history.

Peace Corps Volunteers contribute to a country’s ability to adapt to a changing climate by building the capacity of a community’s readiness.

2014 Environment Work

1,065,267 Trees Planted
11,863 Students trained in environmental issues
925 Sustainable cookstoves promoted
69 Waste management programs

Peace Corps Volunteer Action

Environmental Education
Sustainable Food Security
Waste Management
Climate Smart Agriculture
Improved Local Technologies
Reforestation
Environmental Management
Natural Resource Management
Climate Change in Volunteer Communities

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Volunteering and Climate Change

Expand volunteer-sending opportunities around climate adaptation

Investment in domestic volunteer infrastructure

Platforms the bring together technology, climate education and on the ground volunteering expertise
Peace Corps Office of Strategic Partnerships

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