International Voluntary Organizations

Listed below is a sample of organizations highlighting potential volunteer opportunities that may be options for Extension personnel. This listing is not formally endorsed by either Purdue Extension or University of Illinois Extension, but is meant to serve as a starting point for research about the availability of volunteer opportunities internationally. This is adapted from a similar listing published by WORLDVIEW The Magazine of the National Peace Corps Association, Vol. 20, No. 3, Fall 2007. www.worldviewmagazine.com

ACDI/VOCA  This private nonprofit brings skilled volunteers to almost 40 nations around the world to promote economic development. Volunteers with 10 or more years of professional experience typically serve two to four weeks in agribusiness, enterprise development, financial services, community development and food security. **Benefits paid include** airfare, travel related expenses, lodging, meals/incidentals and insurance. www.acdivoca.org

Art Corps  Artists in all disciplines with strong interpersonal and leadership skills, travel to Central America for 11 months. Volunteers supplement development work with local host NGOs, using art to inspire community members to work towards social action. **Benefits paid include** airfare, food, lodging, insurance, in-country transportation, small stipend, project support. www.artcorp.org

African Impact  Opportunities in teaching and education, sports coaching, wildlife and conservation, healthcare, orphans, community development or HIV/AIDS are available in southern and eastern Africa. No experience is required, but medical projects seek skilled personnel. Programs vary widely from a few weeks to several months, and travel is encouraged. **Program fee** paid by the participant covers lodging, food, project supplies and other related expenses. www.africanimpact.com

American Bar Association Rule of Law Initiative  Judges, attorneys, law professors and legal specialists with five or more years experience can join the International Pro Bono Legal Specialist Program, which operates in most regions of the world. Areas include anti-corruption, criminal law and traffic, gender issues, human rights and conflict mitigation, judicial reform, legal education and legal profession reform. Volunteers serve an average of twelve months but terms can vary widely. **Benefits paid include** lodging, meals, incidentals, in-county travel, business expenses and some insurance. www.abanet.org/rol/programs
**American Jewish World Service**  Jewish professionals partner with NGOs to provide technical support and skills training in a variety of fields. Terms are two to twelve months in one of 14 countries in Asia, Africa or the Americas. AJWS also leads short term service delegations for groups. **Benefits paid include** airfare, some insurance, and possibility of added need based funding.  [www.ajws.org](http://www.ajws.org)

**American Refugee Committee**  Skilled volunteers work four to six months in health, construction, logistics, human resources and community development; field offices are in about 10 countries. The Rapid Response Team is deployed on short notice for emergency humanitarian assignments lasting up to two months. **Benefits paid include** housing and a small stipend.  [www.arcrelief.org](http://www.arcrelief.org)

**Building Blocks International**  At least five managers within a corporation spend six weeks to a one year on a community service externship worldwide. The Corporate Service Corps applies management skills to help organizations that promote health, education, economic development and environmental initiatives. **Ideally, volunteer expenses are covered by corporate sponsorship.**  [www.bblocks.org](http://www.bblocks.org)

**Catholic Medical Mission Board**  Licensed health care professionals work in any of 15 countries to support health initiatives, supply shipments, medical field work and disaster relief efforts. Most programs prefer commitments of one year or longer, with some options lasting a few months. **Benefits paid include** room and board, insurance, (terms over one year also include travel, increased insurance and a monthly stipend).  [www.cmmb.org](http://www.cmmb.org)

**Catholic Relief Services**  Catholics with specific career skills commit to one year serving overseas in a variety of fields ranging from health and education to microfinance and engineering, with global placements, followed by a year serving domestically (usually in the participant’s home diocese). **Benefits paid include** housing, airfare, insurance and a small stipend.  [www.crs.org](http://www.crs.org)

**Citizens Development Corps**  Volunteer advisors advance economic growth around the world, applying their demonstrable business experience to projects through the MBA Enterprise Corps or the Tourism Development Corps. Assignments of two to eight weeks develop best practices in business advocacy, community development, capacity building and related fields in over 15 countries. **Benefits paid include** airfare, travel expenses, lodging, per diem, insurance and project supplies.  [www.cdc.org](http://www.cdc.org)

**Citizens Network on Foreign Affairs (CNFA)**  In partnership with the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) CNFA implements the John Ogonowski Farmer-to-Farmer Program in Southern Africa; East Africa; Europe; Caucasus and Central Asia. Volunteer assistance targets smallholder farmers, agribusiness and associations, as well as services and
enterprises. Volunteer activities support the production and marketing of a range of staple and high value commodities such as dairy, fruits, vegetables, nuts, poultry, potatoes, grains, oilseed crops, legumes and horticulture. **Paid benefits vary.** [www.cnfa.org](http://www.cnfa.org)

**Coffee Quality Institute** Coffee Corps seeks to improve the quality of coffee and conditions for growers. Individuals with general business experience or specialized coffee skills complete two week projects in one of 25 countries. **Benefits paid include** airfare, travel expenses, lodging, per diem, insurance and program materials. [www.coffeeinstitute.org](http://www.coffeeinstitute.org)

**Cross Cultural Solutions** With 20 sites in 12 countries, volunteers can pursue two to twelve week projects with local counterparts in social services, education and health. **Program fee** covers lodging, most meals, insurance, in-country transportation and administrative costs. [www.crossculturalsolutions.org](http://www.crossculturalsolutions.org)

**Detours Abroad** Volunteers join community projects in education, health or general community services. Work and travel lasts two to twelve weeks in one of 10 countries. **Program fee** covers in-country travel, lodging, food and program materials. [www.detoursabroad.com.au](http://www.detoursabroad.com.au)

**Earthwatch Institute** Volunteers spend two days to three weeks assisting scientific field researchers in 55 countries around the world. Expeditions collect data about rainforest ecology, climate change, endangered species and more. **Program fee** covers food, accommodations, insurance, in-country travel and cost of research. [www.earthwatch.org](http://www.earthwatch.org)

**Encore! Service Corps International** Former Peace Corps Volunteers and Peace Corps staff match their professional skills with three week to three month assignments around the world. Examples include construction projects, HIV/AIDS education, computer training and health support. **Volunteers pay their own way, with host sites often providing food, lodging and in-country transportation.** [www.encoreservicecorps.org](http://www.encoreservicecorps.org)

**Engineers for a Sustainable World** Engineers from all disciplines and skill levels join teams in developing countries, working directly with local organizations for 10-14 weeks in the summer. Most projects are in water supply and quality, information and communication technology education, renewable energy development and food processing and storage. **Program fee** covers training, travel, lodging and other costs. [www.eswusa.org](http://www.eswusa.org)

**Financial Services Volunteer Corps** Experts with 10 or more years experience in banking, capital markets, financial reform and regulation, policy implementation and related fields promote market infrastructure in developing economies. One to two week assignments usually involve leading workshops and consultations with international partners in eight
nations. **Benefit paid include** airfare, in-country transportation, per diem, insurance and selected other expenses. [www.fsvc.org](http://www.fsvc.org)

**Foundation for Sustainable Development**  Pro Corps members have seven or more years experience in micro-enterprise, environment, health, youth and education, women’s empowerment, community development or human rights. Long-term volunteers (9-52 weeks) develop independent projects with partner organizations, while short term volunteers (one to eight weeks) with less time and/or experience support existing projects in Africa, Latin America and India. **Program fee** covers lodging, food, in-country support and insurance. **Small grants** are available to develop and implement project work plans. [www.fsdinternational.org](http://www.fsdinternational.org)

**Global Citizens Network**  Cultural immersion is a priority as volunteer teams assist with projects initiated by local communities in eight countries. No skills are required for one to three week projects in construction, teaching or planting. **Program fee** covers in-country travel, lodging, meals, insurance and other costs. [www.globalcitizens.org](http://www.globalcitizens.org)

**Global Service Corps**  Service learning projects are offered in areas such as HIV/AIDS prevention, sustainable agriculture, healthcare and English language instruction. Two week to six month community based projects take place in Tanzania and Thailand. **Program fee** covers in-country travel, lodging, meals and cultural excursions. [www.globalservicecorps.org](http://www.globalservicecorps.org)

**Global Vision International**  Volunteers spend one to twenty weeks with worldwide research teams engaging in conservation or wildlife expeditions or more traditional teaching, construction and community work projects. No experience is necessary to join teams operating in all regions of the world. **Program fee** includes meals, lodging, equipment and training. [www.gvi.co.uk](http://www.gvi.co.uk)

**Global Volunteers**  Volunteers teach English, work with children or adults, repair buildings or provide healthcare. Both skilled and unskilled work is sought in almost 20 nations, some in the developed world. **Program fee** covers meals, lodging, ground transportation and project materials. [www.globalvolunteers.org](http://www.globalvolunteers.org)

**Global Aware**  Volunteers interact with host communities in 11 countries, supporting a variety of sustainable development projects such as construction and childcare. Most volunteer vacations are one week, with the option of extending up to three additional weeks. **Program fee** covers meals, lodging, insurance, in-country travel and administrative support. [www.globalaware.org](http://www.globalaware.org)
**Habitat for Humanity International**  The International Volunteer Program matches specialized skills with administrative and capacity building projects on the ground in a variety of different countries. *While serving six to twelve months volunteers cover all expenses while abroad.* Alternatively, the Global Village Program, which requires no previous experience, consists of one to three weeks of construction work, primarily in Africa and Asia. [www.habitat.org](http://www.habitat.org)

**Health Volunteers Overseas**  Skilled medical professionals conduct health care trainings for local health care providers in over 25 countries around the world. Placements average one month, but shorter and longer terms are welcomed. *Volunteers typically pay their own way, although some sites provide local transportation and lodging.* [www.hvousa.org](http://www.hvousa.org)

**Iko Poran**  Volunteers spend three to 24 weeks promoting human rights in Brazil, with projects focusing on ecology, education, health, arts, youth and other specialized assistance. *Program fee* covers lodging and donation to the project. [www.ikoporans.org](http://www.ikoporans.org)

**International Executive Service Corps**  Business and industry professionals promote economic stability through 4 program areas: trade and competitiveness; information and communications technology (GeekCorps); financial services and tourism development. Volunteers should have ten or more years experience and be prepared to commit five to six weeks to the project. *Benefits paid include* airfare, travel related expenses and comprehensive per diem. [www.iesc.org](http://www.iesc.org)

**i-to-i**  Over 500 projects on 5 continents offer a wide range of activities. Volunteers serve two to 24 weeks supporting community development, conservation, teaching and building. *Program fee* includes lodging, meals, security and project orientation. [www.i-to-i.com](http://www.i-to-i.com)

**The John Ogonowski Farmer to Farmer Program**  Funded by USAID, but administered through partner organizations, this program provides technical assistance to farmers and agribusinesses around the world. Volunteers, who usually spend 20 to 30 days overseas, typically have domestic farming experience. Partners includes ACDI/VOCA, CNFA, OIC International Partners of the Americas, Winrock International and two land grant universities. *Benefits paid vary.* [www.usaid.gov/our_work/agriculture/farmer_to_farmer.htm](http://www.usaid.gov/our_work/agriculture/farmer_to_farmer.htm)

**Land O’Lakes International Development**  This agribusiness works in several global regions to boost agricultural productivity and competitive ness; food processing and quality assurance; marketing and distribution; enterprise and association development; food security and asset creation. Opportunities last from two to six weeks. *Benefits paid include* travel, lodging, meals and work related expenses. [www.idd.landolakes.com](http://www.idd.landolakes.com)
Medical Teams International (formerly Northwest Medical Teams)  This Christian organization sends licensed professional to work around the world in medical, dental or disaster response capacities. Non-medical terms address chronic poverty and other community development issues. **Except for emergency response teams, whose expenses are covered, volunteers must typically pay for their two to four week service.**

www.medicalteams.org

Partners of the Americas  Volunteers with experience in areas such as agriculture and natural resources; civil society and governance; gender and equality; youth and children must locate their local chapter and work through its partner in Latin America or the Caribbean. Assignments are usually two to three weeks; special arrangements can be made through the national office. **Benefits paid include** airfare, travel related expenses, lodging, in-country transportation, meals, insurance and some supplies.  www.partners.net

Peace Corps Response  Skilled Returned Peace Corps Volunteers return overseas for short, high impact assignments, lasting three to six months. Volunteers work fairly independently in health, disaster relief, emergency preparedness, humanitarian assistance and other urgent efforts. **Benefits paid include** (those similar to Peace Corps Volunteer benefits) airfare, medical care and living allowances.  www.peacecorps.gov

United Nations Volunteers  Humanitarian aid specialists, senior business leaders and professionals from various other sectors target Millennium Development Goals worldwide. Competitive applications are sought in the fields of public policy, human resources, environmental studies, micro-credit, medicine, crisis prevention and more. **Benefits include** airfare, living allowance, insurance and resettlement grants.  www.unv.org

Visions in Action  Both entry-level and experienced volunteers work in many fields, including agriculture, education, architecture, youth and more. Placements require six to 12 months in Mexico, South Africa, Tanzania, Liberia or Uganda. **Program fee** covers housing and insurance. **Long term volunteers also receive a small stipend.**

www.visionsinaction.org

Volunteers for Economic Growth  VEGA specializes in short term volunteer opportunities for USAID funded projects operated by more than a dozen organizations including ACDI/VOCA, Land O'Lakes, Financial Services Volunteer Corps and GeekCorps. **Benefits vary.**  www.vegaalliance.org

Volunteers for Peace  These grassroots projects include environmental work, construction, work with children or the disabled, agriculture, arts and more. Placements are available globally, including the developed world. Most projects run two to three weeks, with
Voluntary Service Overseas  Skilled workers with professional qualifications and two to five years experience spend one to two years advising and training colleagues in a variety of fields. Placement for non-U.K. citizens are available in 34 countries. Benefits include airfare, living allowance, lodging, and insurance. www.vso.org.uk

Winrock International  Volunteers, typically skilled, can work in a variety of countries in the fields of empowerment and civic engagement; enterprise and agriculture; environment; forestry; energy and ecosystem services. Most assignments are two to four weeks. Benefits include airfare, travel expenses, per diem and insurance. www.winrock.org

WorldTeach  Volunteers teach English and other subjects in one of 16 summer and academic year programs around the world. Most candidates have no teaching experience, although those with advanced qualifications may be given higher age placements. There is a program fee, but year-long volunteers receive a monthly allowance. Travel, housing and insurance are arranged by the organization. www.worldteach.org