

ACDI/VOCA VOLUNTEER PROGRAMS

ACDI/VOCA has led international, person-to-person technical assistance for over 50 years. We bring innovation and measurable impacts to enterprises and entrepreneurs, universities, farmers, financial institutions, and cooperatives and associations all over the world. Our volunteers share their knowledge and expertise while also gaining an appreciation and deeper understanding of the countries and cultures where they serve. Although most volunteer assignments are short-term, the relationships established can create life-long bonds.



Volunteer Katie Pons (right) with a family in Bangladesh

TECHNICAL AREAS

Market Systems & Agricultural Value Chains: Production, Processing, Packaging, Cold Chain Storage, Quality Assurance, International Trade, Capacity Building, Partnerships

Community Development: Women & Youth Empowerment, Nutrition, Association Strengthening, Agritourism, Strategic Planning

Marketing & Communications: Branding, Advertising, Social Media Strategy, Videography, Public Relations

Enterprise Development & Financial Services: Accounting, Asset & Risk Management, Business & Financial Planning, Impact Investment, Entrepreneurship, Access to Finance

Environmental Resilience: Climate Change Mitigation, Land & Water Management, Conservation, Geographic Information System Analysis, Carbon Sequestration Strategies

STUDENT VOLUNTEERING

Are you a graduate or doctoral student interested in bringing research and innovations to participants of our global projects? We work with more than 40 universities, including Johns Hopkins, University of California- Davis, Texas A&M, Purdue, Pennsylvania State, Tufts, Duke, Brandeis University, and Emory University, to identify promising student talent. Since 2010, students have gained hands-on experience during three- to 12-month assignments. Students may also earn course credit with approval from their university.

INDIVIDUAL VOLUNTEERING

Interested in making a difference by providing targeted assistance in your area of expertise? Our volunteers share valuable knowledge and experience during two- to four-week assignments, while forming relationships, learning the culture, and experiencing their field in a different way. We match volunteers with hosts based on their needs and provide a pre-departure security briefing, visa, travel arrangements, stipends, and local accommodations.

"I VOLUNTEER TO PROVIDE HOPE AND A POSITIVE UNDERSTANDING OF THE AMERICAN VALUES OF CARE, TRANSPARENCY, INCLUSION, AND INTEGRITY. IN LARGE AND SMALL WAYS, THIS PROMOTES PEACE."

– Volunteer Jeff Westendorp (right) with a local grower in Georgia





Volunteer Kabita Kabita (left) with an enterprise owner in Zambia

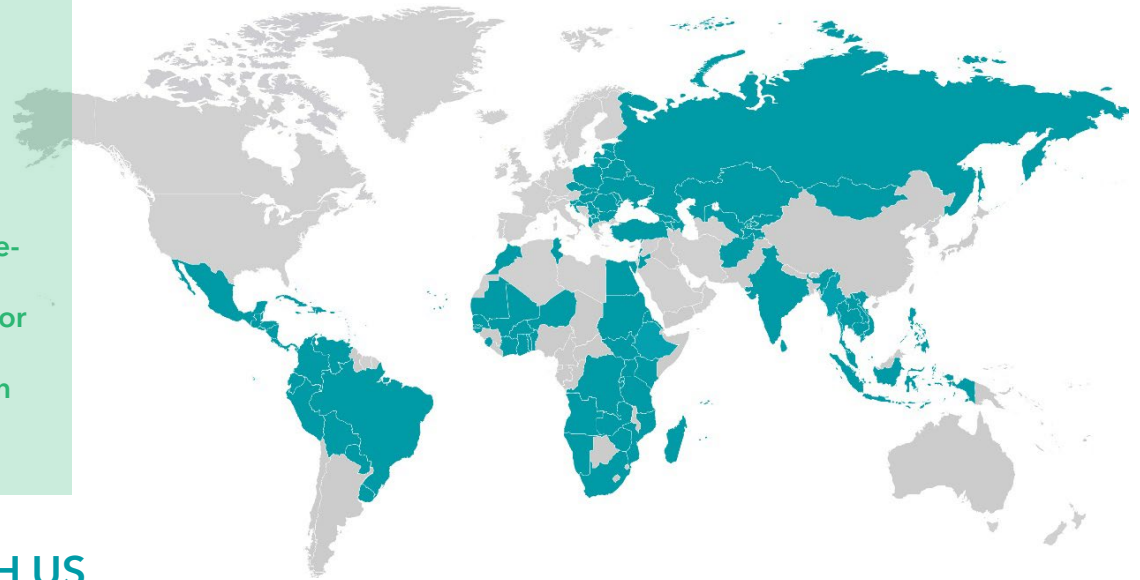
REMOTE VOLUNTEERING

During the COVID-19 pandemic, we began implementing remote assignments, in which an international volunteer met with local leaders online to review business needs and conduct trainings. In some cases, US volunteers teamed up with a local volunteer, allowing online trainings to be combined with in-person trainings. These paired assignments promote sustainable support on a local level. Due to their popularity and success achieved through remote assignments, we are excited to continue this option for volunteers who want to get involved but may not be able to travel for extended periods of time.

CORPORATE VOLUNTEERING

Interested in creating a corporate volunteer program? We work with private sector partners to help design and manage programs. This includes determining employee eligibility, length of assignments, and budgets as well as selecting countries, integrating employee learning objectives, and providing logistical support and risk management.

From 2008 to 2016, ACDI/VOCA led the Mars Ambassador Program, connecting Mars employees with global organizations that supported the company. ACDI/VOCA fielded 481 Mars employees, who engaged in direct, on-the-ground assignments in more than 80 countries for four to six weeks, taking them from cocoa farms in Ghana to rice fields in Cambodia.



VOLUNTEER WITH US

- 1 Visit acdivoca.org/volunteer to create a profile.
- 2 Submit a resume.
- 3 Or apply directly to current volunteer opportunities overseas.

If you would like to learn more, please contact Diana Shipman at dshipman@acdivoca.org or 202.469.6182.

ACDI/VOCA is a global development design and delivery partner implementing effective economic and social development projects around the world. For over 50 years, we have mobilized over 12,000 volunteer specialists to share their expertise with local businesses, governments, and institutions in over 130 countries.