



PROJECTS ABROAD

About the Organisation

Projects Abroad was founded in 1992 by English geography professor, Dr Peter Slowe, who sought to provide overseas travel and work opportunities (a 'gap year') for his students.

Until 1997, Projects Abroad was a small organisation with two part-time staff that sent university students on work experience teaching placements in Eastern Europe. However, in response to a growing need for self-funded volunteers in developing countries, and students' desire for international work and educational experiences, the organisation's volunteer Programs have expanded around the world.

Projects Abroad now has over 150 trained staff at its destinations throughout Africa, Asia, Eastern Europe and Latin America. In addition to providing students and young people with the chance to work and travel in a developing country, Projects Abroad placements incorporate language training courses and opportunities to develop skills in fields as diverse as journalism, medicine, teaching and law. The placements are structured flexibly so that students are able to choose the amount of time and money they wish to spend overseas.

Project Information

(a) Teaching

Placements are in primary or secondary schools, special schools and even universities. All our placements have one thing in common - a genuine need for conversational English practice.

Usually you work in timetabled conversational English lessons. Sometimes (usually at a primary school) you are given your own class. Depending on the country you choose for your placement, you can find yourself teaching a group of five-year-olds or a class of adults. You might even be in a special school for the deaf or physically disabled.

Teaching placements vary even within the same country, but you'll usually be in lessons for about 18 hours a week. This may not sound a lot - but you will need to prepare your lessons in your spare time!

If, like many volunteers, you feel a little unsure about taking an English class of any age, we give you a great deal of help. Once you are on your placement you have the full support of your supervisor (usually an English teacher at the school) and Projects Abroad local staff.

Before you leave we brief you comprehensively about teaching English. You receive a 64-page teaching guide packed with guidelines and ideas, teaching games and advice. It includes tried-and-tested teaching resources, and takes you through beginners and intermediate lessons.

But you are your own primary resource. The teaching guide gives lots of suggestions about how you can maximise yourself as a 'resource'. Bring along 'props' - like family photos, postcards magazines, coins, CDs - to kick-start conversation or a lesson. And when you get to your destination, comparing notes about what works and what doesn't work with other volunteers is always helpful.

Anyway, you're not likely to have many problems getting your pupils' attention. They want to speak English well so that they can get into good universities, get better jobs, have a better life - and sometimes enjoy everything that satellite TV has to offer!

While your pupils want to learn English, you will probably find that local teachers are just as keen - and they will practise their spoken English on you. This is, of course, part of the benefit of your placement - the better local teachers speak English, the better they will be able to teach their pupils.

Most of our schools welcome volunteers who want to get involved in other aspects of school life, or run extra-curricular activities and after-school clubs. Alongside your conversational English classes you could help with the following:

Sports: You can teach soccer in most of our destinations, and teach children cricket in India and South Africa. Everyone enjoys having a volunteer who is keen to teach English in the morning then get involved with arranging sports clubs and games in the afternoon.

Drama: Drama is a useful tool for teaching English. If you are a drama specialist, schools in most of our destinations will have a place for you. If drama is a hobby, a school play is an enjoyable way to teach and learn any language!

Music: Many of our partner schools are keen to enhance their Western music curriculum. If you are a music student, it's an excellent opportunity to learn about world music, while teaching extra-curricular lessons. You can start a choir, arrange music groups, teach composition and raise the profile of the arts where you are teaching.

(b) Care and Community Work

As a Care & Community volunteer working with children in orphanages, you would be helping the kids to learn life-skills that parents would normally teach. By getting involved in the day-to-day running of a care center - making sure children are fed, washed and dressed, and paying them personal attention - you are helping to shape the lives of young people, preparing them better for life.

Sport, art, music and drama are always popular on these placements. Start a choir, put on a play or organize general fun activities!

You might like to be part of a team working on community projects such as building classrooms, community centers, or playgrounds, painting and decorating children's wards or orphanage dining rooms, and generally lending a hand where it's needed. Community projects are typically under-funded and under-resourced, so volunteers, and our resources, are always welcome.

Care & Community volunteers don't need to be qualified or have previous experience - enthusiasm, a willingness to get involved and patience are the vital ingredients. Let us know if you'd like to work with children or on a practical placement. You could even do a bit of both!

Do something really worthwhile overseas by helping to raise awareness of HIV/AIDS through educational projects in Ghana or work in a center for HIV/AIDS sufferers in Mexico.

These Care & Community placements will give you a unique chance to get involved in the local communities and help to educate and care for people affected by HIV and AIDS.

In Mexico you will be working at PAIPID (Proyecto para la Atencion de la Persona Inmuno Deprimida) in Tonalá, a district of Guadalajara. PAIPID is a center providing professional care and counselling for people with HIV/AIDS and their families. In addition to modern medicine, the center offers alternative treatment such as herbal medicine, physiotherapy and homeopathy. The center acts as a rehabilitation centre where patients can temporarily live after undergoing treatment at other hospitals, or at home. Most patients staying there are terminally ill and there are many permanent patients, small children who were tragically born with HIV and who were orphaned early on in life.

Initially, trained volunteers visit schools and communities to seek permission from the governing bodies to carry out an advocacy Program. Before the HIV/AIDS Program is carried out there is an initial survey on the school/community to find out how much information they already know about the disease. This is to determine the content of the Program, as some schools/communities may have a greater knowledge than others and should therefore be

(c) Sport

Wherever you travel in the world everyone enjoys sports. Why? Well, not only do sports create happy and healthy children but they also bring people together and help to build strong communities. Sports provide a platform for young talent from disadvantaged backgrounds and create a path full of possibilities for their development.

Sports' coaching has a real positive impact on children. There is the physical and mental benefit that regular exercise provides. There is the fun and the promise. There are also the life skills like communication, team work, confidence, inclusion, and discipline to be gained by players and volunteer coaches alike.

Whatever placement you decide is right for you, soccer in Ghana, cricket in India, volleyball in Peru or kick-boxing in Thailand we can help you make the best of your time. You could be learning more about your sport in the morning and organizing a game in the afternoon, if you wish. Through well established relationships with local teams and clubs and carefully structured sports Programs we are able to assist volunteers regardless of coaching experience.

We can find the right sports project for you – just let us know what interests you! Even Aussie Rules!!

(d) Animal Care

Situated in the center of Guadalajara, we work in a special hospital for wild and domestic animals.

The center works in conjunction with Proteccion Civil - the local emergency service - who deliver injured, mistreated and abandoned animals to the center, either for permanent residence and care, or as part of a rehabilitation process before they are released back into the wild.

There is a focus on birds (such as falcons, eagles, toucans, parrots and owls) and reptiles, but a range of other animals also live at the center.

You will be feeding the animals, and cleaning and repairing enclosures. Volunteers also have the chance to assist the specialists in retraining the animals to hunt, fly and live independently.

(e) Inca Projects

Inca Projects is a great choice if you are interested in archaeology and the history of the Inca civilization - and if you don't mind getting your hands dirty and getting fit walking in the hillsides and mountains of the Andes. Projects Abroad work with the Instituto Nacional de Cultura (INC) on sites in the Cusco region. This is a huge opportunity for anybody interested in Inca culture and its preservation in an area which the Incas themselves considered "the navel of the earth".

On Thursday September 29th 2005, Projects Abroad - Peru renewed its formal agreement with the INC for a period of two years and the sites that we will be able to work on are impressive. They include Sacsayhuaman, Pisac, Ollantaytambo, the Historical Center of Cusco and some amazing new sites in the cloud forest.

The Inca Projects volunteers are based in Huyro in the La Convencion province. Huyro is about a three hour journey from our main office in the Sacred Valley and has an internet cafe and many small shops. The work that volunteers are involved in consists of three main areas; archaeology, community work and expeditions. Volunteers live in a community house close to the center of Huyro with a family of Projects Abroad staff that will cook and look after you. Volunteers are very much part of the Huyro community. From January 2007 onwards our main area of work will be at the site of the newly found ruins. We do not yet know a lot about the new settlement but we are sure that due to its proximity to Machu Picchu and Vilcabamba it will become an important site for Inca historians.

From May 2007 onwards, for one week a month, we will also be able to do some excavation work on Sacsayhuamán, an amazing Incan construction. Its construction took over seven decades and required the work of approximately 20,000 men, both for the foundations and hewn stone works, the transportation of materials, carving and setting of the stones. Some of the external walls at Sacsayhuamán exceed 9 meters in height and 350 tons in weight.

Community meetings in Huyro have been held since August 2006 and have always been very well attended. They were promoted by Projects Abroad in order to discuss our work and the ways in which we can help and have a positive impact on the community of Huyro over the next two years. The meetings produced a lot of very useful information and with the involvement of local community leaders in the discussions a list of activities and jobs was drawn up.

'The Inca Projects involve a combination of work on the terraces and community work. On the terraces we help the INC to preserve and maintain the Inca terraces in the nearby mountains. Often work involves walking up a spectacular and beautiful mountain. The community work has involved digging and planting a garden in the local school and playing sports with village children. Both projects have been really rewarding.'

(f) Business

Our business experience Programs are designed to give you practical work experience and enhance your CV. They are for those who would like to make their break count, not just by contributing professional skills, but also for career and skills development.

Like all our Programs, our Business experience Programs give you the chance to discover a way of life in a different environment - Shanghai, Ulaanbaatar or Accra. We have chosen these cities, which are among the most dynamic in the world in terms of economic growth, because their position in the global economy presents work experience opportunities in business that are relevant in the 21st century. They also provide the challenging environment that makes a work placement an enriching voyage of discovery.

Because of the career-related aspects of our business placements, each Program is designed to suit each individual volunteer. Your qualifications, previous work experience, as well as aspirations and personal preferences, are directly relevant. We therefore ask you to send us a copy of your CV with your application, and a covering letter explaining the type of placement you'd like us to organize for you.

(g) Nomad Project in Mongolia

If you've ever fancied really getting away from it all, forget exotic beaches or desert islands, Mongolia is definitely the place for you. Forty per cent of the population are still Nomads who wander the endless steppe on camels and horses. Sign up for our Nomadic Life placement and you'll join a group of Mongolian Nomads and experience a way of living that has barely changed in a thousand years.

Living with a family in a large round tent, known as a "ger", your daily life may include riding horses to move herds of yaks or cattle, caring for livestock, helping to produce dairy products and maybe teaching a little English. It's a great way to learn more about this ancient way of life and how it's being affected by modern-day Mongolia. In exchange for help with the animals, or playing with the children, the family you'll stay with will be keen to involve you fully in their way of living.

"This placement has been out of this world. I've spent my time collecting wood and water, been camel riding on several occasions, done some teaching, played in a local basketball competition and many more things. This place is the greatest and I wish I could have stayed longer!" - Matthew Whiting, Nomadic Life Volunteer, February 2004.

While you are on the project you will get the chance to spend a few nights camping in a part of the Gobi Desert, where you can look for dinosaur fossils with a local expert.

(h) Law and Human Rights

For those of you interested in a career in the notoriously competitive legal profession, a placement with a well-respected law firm overseas could be a valuable addition to your CV.

We have legal placements in Ghana and China. These are suitable for:

- Law graduates
- Law students during vacations
- People who have completed a Law Conversion course

Plus, in Ghana only:

- Pre-university students thinking of joining the legal profession.
- People wanting to gain work experience in the field of Human Rights

A Law placement with Projects Abroad would be an impressive addition (or alternative) to important Easter/Summer Vacation Placements or Mini-pupillages.

You will be able to gain a unique insight into the day-to-day practice of law and the very rule of law in a West African or Chinese environment. We will place you in a well-respected firm where you would have the choice in China of working in property and land law, in other types of civil law, or in criminal law. In Ghana you could choose between a business and criminal law placement or working on a Human Rights project.

(i) IT Projects

In these innovative projects, you'll find yourself helping to teach children IT skills in Sri Lanka or Ghana. Fully supported by Projects Abroad, these projects are hands-on and practical.

In Sri Lanka and Ghana the children are desperate to learn about computers, and acquiring some basic IT knowledge will greatly improve their job prospects.

Volunteers are needed to help teach very basic computer Programs like Word and Excel, however, if you are also able to develop databases and assist with any maintenance work your help will be much appreciated.

(j) Khmer Projects

Explore the ancient civilizations and engaging culture of modern Cambodia on our Khmer Project. The allure of Angkor Wat and images of Khmer temples surrounded by jungles have captivated travelers for centuries and, as you will discover, they are still some of the most amazing archaeology sites in the world. On our Khmer Project, volunteers not only get to learn about Khmer culture, past and present, but are also able to aid local communities in this truly developing country through various community development projects.

Volunteers on the Khmer Project will be able to take part in a variety of different activities depending on the season and availability. During the few months of the dry season, you will assist on several archaeological digs around the country under the supervision of local archaeologists. To supplement the archaeology work, you will work on various cultural projects like helping at a new museum outside of Phnom Penh and working with a local organization that promotes cultural preservation. Volunteers will also take part on monthly expeditions to less-visited temples and cultural sites. In addition, they may also be able to take part in weekly traditional puppet and dancing classes.

Another important component to the Khmer Project is community development work. Depending on the season, Khmer Project volunteers will lend a hand at English clubs for Cambodian university students or help with construction projects in local villages. This will raise the level of international awareness in the region, and prepare the locals for the wave of tourism that is sure to hit them in the coming years.

Khmer Project volunteers are accommodated in pairs with other volunteers in shared apartments in Phnom Penh. You will be provided with a private and secure room, furnished with a bed, mattress and electric fan. At these dorms there will be a cook and cleaner who will provide meals. Sometimes you will go to a local restaurant for authentic Cambodian cuisine. Naturally, you will be provided with ample safe (boiled or filtered) drinking water at all times.

(k) Conservation

Conservation placements can take you into some awe inspiring natural scenery and the work you do will have a real impact on their survival.

These projects are available in a variety of animal, environment and sustainability disciplines and include;

Thailand - marine conservation where you will be surveying reefs and helping to re-establish vital mangrove eco-systems. If you have never dived before you can use the project to gain your scuba qualifications.

India – work on a sustainable farm learning the techniques in growing organic crops in sympathy and harmony with the surrounding environment. This is also a model farm which educates local people in sustainable techniques which will become increasingly important as the population grows and the toll of earlier farming is felt on the environment.

Peru – adventurous projects in the heart of the Amazon rain forest include encouraging the recovery of the rainforest from logging, monitoring bio-diversity, trail maintenance and animal release. On these projects you will be living in the jungle in a small village surrounded by the towering ancient trees and abundant wildlife.

Mexico – projects are focussed on animal conservation, in particular the many turtle species which lay their eggs on the beaches of Mexico. Living in a tented village near the beach, you will help to collect eggs then incubate, hatch and release the young turtles. This saves the toll taken by poachers and introduces many more young to the ocean and playing a big part in the survival of these threatened reptiles.

All the projects are targeted in areas where your contribution can help to sustain a unique environment and learn about the diversity and fragility of the eco-systems which make up our planet.

No experience in environmental or animal management is required.

(l) Journalism

Journalism placements are an excellent opportunity to gain a real understanding of a new culture, to get under the skin of the locals, to highlight the burning issues of the day and to develop practical communication skills.

Projects include TV and radio (although these are few) and print journalism. These projects include work in Romania, Ghana, Mexico, China, India and Mongolia.

The placements are geared around gaining an understanding of the industry as well as developing a local knowledge and network of contacts. You will be expected to contribute to the content of the newspaper, sometimes reacting to news stories, sometimes producing reflective and in depth pieces on aspects of local life.

This is an often fast paced challenge but a fantastic chance to gain a deep understanding and appreciation of local and regional culture, politics and day to day life.

Cost Breakdown

Country	Activity	Cost	Length of Service
Argentina	Teaching	\$4295	3 Months
	Care and Community Work	\$4295	3 Months
Bolivia	Teaching	\$4045	3 Months
	Care and Community Work Journalism	\$4045 \$4545	3 Months 3 Months
Cambodia	Care and Community Work	\$4045	3 Months
	Teaching	\$4045	3 Months
	Khmer Projects	\$4245	3 Months
Chile	Teaching	\$4294	3 Months
	Care and Community Work	\$4295	3 Months
	Conservation	\$5745	3 Months
China	Teaching	\$4545	3 Months
	Business	\$5745	3 Months
	Journalism	\$5745	3 Months
	Law	\$5745	3 Months
Costa Rica	Teaching	\$4045	3 Months
	Care and Community Work	\$4045	3 Months
	Conservation	\$4045	3 Months
Ghana	Teaching	\$4245	3 Months
	Care and Community Work	\$4245	3 Months
	Business	\$4795	3 Months
	Journalism	\$4795	3 Months
	Law	\$4795	3 Months
	IT Projects	\$4295	3 Months
	Sport	\$4295	3 Months
India	Teaching	\$3045	3 Months
	Care and Community Work	\$3645	3 Months
	Conservation	\$4045	3 Months
	Sport	\$3045	3 Months
	Journalism	\$4045	3 Months
Mexico	Teaching	\$4045	3 Months
	Care and Community Work	\$4045	3 Months
	Conservation	\$4995	3 Months
	Journalism	\$4545	3 Months
	Animal Care	\$4545	3 Months
Moldova	Teaching	\$3295	3 Months
	Care and Community Work	\$3295	3 Months
	Journalism	\$3795	3 Months
Mongolia	Teaching	\$3795	3 Months
	Care and Community Work	\$3795	3 Months
	Business	\$3795	3 Months
	Journalism	\$3795	3 Months
	Nomadic Life	\$4995	3 Months
	Sport	\$3795	3 Months
Peru	Teaching	\$4045	3 Months
	Care and Community Work	\$4145	3 Months
	Sport	\$4045	3 Months
	Conservation	\$4995	3 Months
	Inca Projects	4145	3 Months
Romania	Teaching	\$3295	3 Months
	Care and Community Work	\$3895	3 Months
	Conservation	\$3895	3 Months
	Journalism	\$3895	3 Months
	Sport	\$3895	3 Months
Senegal	Teaching	\$4295	3 Months
	Care and Community Work	\$4295	3 Months
	Journalism	\$4795	3 Months
South Africa	Conservation	\$4545	3 Months
Swaziland	Teaching	\$5645	3 Months
	Care and Community	\$5645	3 Months
Thailand	Teaching	\$4295	3 Months
	Care and Community Work	\$4295	3 Months
	Conservation	\$4295	3 Months
	Sport	\$4295	3 Months

*** Please note that Hawke Ambassador's will receive a 10% discount on these prices**

The Program Includes

Each placement with Projects Abroad includes

- Accommodation – in most countries this is with a local family, an integral and memorable part of the experience. In some countries we arrange hostel accommodation where staying with a family is difficult to arrange or inappropriate.
- Administration and processing
- Food – meals are provided within the family and while working at your placement.
- Insurance – comprehensive travel and medical insurance while you are working with Projects Abroad. This can be extended if you undertake any independent travel either before or after your work placement.
- Project – a well organised, fulfilling and appropriately supervised placement. A lot of work goes into finding willing and worthwhile location for voluntary work. We ensure that the work you do directly benefits the community and is a challenge for you.
- Back Up – we employ over 150 local staff around the world. This gives you local knowledge and guidance as well as a support network which is available 24 hours a day. Any problems you are experiencing or advice you might need is covered.
- Transfers – As soon as you land in the destination country, you are the responsibility of Projects Abroad.

The Program Does Not Include

- Flights to and from Australia
- Visas – please contact Projects Abroad for advice on the most appropriate visa for you.
- Entertainment
- Independent travel – Projects Abroad can advise and help arrange travel for you in the destination country.

For more information:

Contact: Mr. Will Pashley

www.projects-abroad.com.au

E: info@projects-abroad.com.au

T: 1300 132 831

GPO Box 422

Adelaide SA 5001