Volunteer Technical Assistance: Agritourism & Ecotourism Development
ACDI/VOCA is an international economic development firm dedicated to improving lives and livelihoods worldwide through:

- Agribusiness
- Enterprise Development
- Financial Services
- Community Development
- Food Security

http://acdivoca.org
Since 1963 and in 145 countries ACDI/VOCA has fostered broad-based economic growth, raised living standards and created vibrant communities.

- 84 active projects in 40 countries
- ~$168 million in total revenues
- 1,500+ employees (170 in U.S., 1,400 overseas)
Volunteer STTA: An Important Resource

• Targeted technical assistance for 2-4 week period.

• Supports all practice areas; primarily the USAID projects.

• Mid to late career (10 yrs. experience +) and retired professionals.

• Relationship-building, personal and professional.

• We implement approximately 300 short term volunteer assignments per year.
Service Learning Corps

- **Longer-term volunteer technical assistance** for our field projects
- International opportunities, experience for current or recent graduate or Ph.D. students (travel & living expenses covered)
- A network of universities that offer graduate programs in agriculture disciplines, international development and international business
How can I become an ACDI/VOCA Volunteer?

1. Go to ACDI/VOCA website at: http://acdivoca.org/joinus
2. Select “Join Us” tab
3. Upload resume and create e-profile, selecting “Service Learning Corps” or “Volunteer” as job category.
4. Check list of volunteer assignments
5. Respond to assignment to request more information
6. Recruiter will contact you if you have required skills and experience.
Volunteer Program Procedures

- Competitive online application; submit via [http://acdivoca.org/joinus](http://acdivoca.org/joinus)

- Field submits SOW to HQ; Volunteer consultant chosen based on skills, experience.

- Some programs require U.S. citizens (USAID FtF).

- ACDI/VOCA makes all travel arrangements, obtains visa, prepares travel advance to cover travel & living costs, and coordinates in-country logistics with our field office.
Assignment Preparation

The volunteer is sent a packet of briefing materials that includes:

- LOA, Medical Clearance Form, and Beneficiary Form (must be returned before flight can be booked)
- Insurance information
- Emergency procedures
- Country information
- Field office contact information
- Extra copy of the SOW

Volunteer conducts research, contacts host organization
...program procedures, cont’d

• Volunteer met at airport by field staff representative; briefed in country; connected with host organization.

• Final report due at debriefing prior to departure home.

• Expense report due 30 days upon return home.

• Field staff provides evaluation from host organization + our staff
Risk Management

• All field projects have security plan in place with emergency evacuation procedures.

• All travelers entered into iJet, a travel security monitoring program that supplies travel information to all ACDI/VOCA travelers.

• All volunteers covered with insurance:
  ✓ emergency travel assist
  ✓ medical evacuation insurance
Volunteer STTA: Agritourism, Ecotourism

- 90 volunteer assignments 1991 – 2011 in Central Europe, Latin America, former Soviet Union, Middle East
  - Predominantly agro & rural tourism 1991 – 2001
  - Predominantly eco and ethno tourism 2001 - 2011

- Technical assistance in business development of TCOs, facilities development, association development related to these industries

- Central Eastern Europe: tourism (cultural, historical) & agritourism

- Latin America: eco, ethno tourism
Volunteer Assignment Topics:

Assignment topics:
- Marketing & Management Strategies for Tourism
- Agritourism Association Development
- Tourism Facilities Development
- Curriculum development for Tourism Studies
- TCO Business Development
- Agritourism Feasibility Study
- Hospitality Training
- Tourism Management & Strategies
Volunteer Alan Robinson

RESERVA AVAROA
2002
Community-based Tourism

ZONGO VALLEY 1998
Introducing ecotourism and bicycling tourism

COROICO
2001
Improving Tourism Opportunities
Eco-Tourism, Bolivia
Ethno-tourism, Bolivia

Santa Ana

San Miguel
Since 1971 ACDI/VOCA’s Volunteer Program has supported our work worldwide to empower people to succeed in the global economy.