



Who we are

Raleigh International harnesses the passion and energy of young people to affect positive change in sustainable development. We focus on providing access to safe water and sanitation, protecting vulnerable environments and building resilient communities.

Since our foundation in 1984, Raleigh International volunteers have become a global community of more than 36,000 people committed to building a sustainable future.

What we do

Volunteers work in poor rural communities and vulnerable environments on projects which support the achievement of our objectives, whether it's gravity-fed systems bringing safe water to families for the first time; improving sanitation; raising awareness of health and environmental issues; empowering young people to be active citizens or bringing communities together to work more closely with each other and share resources.

How we do it

Our work is delivered with, for and through diverse teams of young people in partnership with local communities and organisations, currently in Borneo, Costa Rica, Nicaragua, India and Tanzania.

Our approach delivers sustainable development at a grassroots level, bringing transformational change to people's lives whilst protecting vulnerable environments. The experiential, challenge-based learning in turn develops active young citizens empowered to drive sustainable development.

International Citizen Service

Starting in June 2012, Raleigh International joined a consortium of experienced development organisations in a three year programme to run the International Citizen Service (ICS). ICS is a UK government funded development programme from the Department for International Development that brings together young people to make a difference in some of the poorest communities around the world.



Our impact

Sustainable use of natural resources

For 40% of southern India's primitive tribal population, energy needs for cooking and heating are met by burning firewood or kerosene. An average household of 5 members collects 15kg of firewood a day.

We have been working with the Centre for Tribal and Rural Development and local communities to build six biogas plants in 2012, providing families with cleaner, more efficient fuel supplies.

External evaluation carried out by KPMG found an average decrease of 84% in firewood usage after the installation of the biogas plant which leads to a reduction of carbon emissions by 7.4 metric tonnes over a 2 year period.

In addition to the environmental benefits, on average, each household earned an additional annual income of £425 from the sale of milk and manure.

"Raleigh's biogas project has tangible benefits both in terms of the savings in the use of fossil fuels and emissions in the tribal communities' households and is making a difference to their lives in many ways."

Hem Pande, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Environment and Forests, Government of India

"Now that we have the biogas units we do not have to walk a long distance to get firewood. We sleep better in our houses as our house is not filled with smoke from the cooking."

Shantha, Biogas beneficiary at Kudimery village

Access to safe water and sanitation

Working in the remote villages of Sabah, Raleigh International has installed 7 gravity-fed water systems in 2012, directly benefitting over 500 people.

Kampung Vunui Lokos, a remote village of approximately 200 people in Sabah's Pitas district, is one of 54 villages being supported by Raleigh International's partner the Asian Forestry Company. In 2010, it lacked many basic amenities including running water, electricity, and medical and education facilities. Since then, Raleigh International volunteers have installed a gravity-fed water system to supply around half of the village's 36 households with a clean and reliable water supply.

61,549 men, women
and children benefited
from our projects in 2012

"Needless to say, the gravity-fed water system is a boon to many of the villagers, especially the women who are the backbone of the community. It is the women who spend most of their time getting water to their families. Having easy access to water saves time and energy."

Agas Dondongon, community member

Improve community resilience

In La Muta, Nicaragua, we have been working in partnership with the Institute for Human Promotion (INPRHU) to improve access to education and increase human rights knowledge. The community of La Muta lies in a small valley, with approximately 170 residents. The community rely on agriculture for an income, with no mains electricity or running water.

Our volunteers worked with INPRHU to deliver focus groups on human rights awareness and environmental issues; a 'festival of education' to highlight the importance of primary education in an area with low attendance; a health and hygiene action day with the school children, which included building a tippy tap and vegetable planters and continued with the construction of a primary school. They also held a child rights action day which the majority of the village attended and created a mural to symbolise it on the school.

"One of the things I am more thankful for is that it has been one of those few times in which we have seen our whole community together."

Maria de los Angeles, Community Health Promoter

Our impact

Impact of programme on young people

Our programmes lay the foundations for the young people to develop their skills and confidence and become leaders in their own right. Volunteers surveyed in 2012, agreed that the Raleigh programme had a positive impact on their development:

- Leadership and team working 89%
- Intercultural awareness 86%
- Global awareness 87%
- Personal aspirations 88%

808 young volunteers
32 countries represented
32% received a bursary

Savan Shah joined Raleigh International's Costa Rica and Nicaragua expedition in 2012, and currently leads a community dance group in Hackney.

"One of the main reasons I wanted to join the Raleigh International expedition was because Raleigh works with poor communities to help them break free from the poverty cycle. What I wasn't expecting was how much the expedition would impact me. It has given me self-confidence and the ability to achieve any goal that I have."

Jo's story

Getting in trouble at 13 for the first time, I began drinking heavily. At 16, having left college with not a lot to show for it, I was doing nothing with my time and generally going nowhere.

My care support team introduced me to Raleigh International. I don't know how I'll ever put my experience with Raleigh International into words. It made me so much more confident in who I was, and in looking after myself. It gave me the courage to come back and face some of the negative aspects and behaviours in my life. I wanted to start again; I dealt with my insecurities, and stopped drinking.

I'm studying Health and Social care now; helping others is something I feel really strongly about, it's what I wanted to continue to do and Raleigh International has given me that.

Inspiring Young Leaders

In June 2012, the DFID-funded Global Ambassadors programme for UK Raleigh alumni came to a close. This was open to those who wanted additional training to increase their awareness of global issues in order to inspire others to take action.

In three years, 186 Raleigh Ambassadors engaged 6,200 people in discussion and action on international development issues, 88% of whom said they intended to continue taking action and raising awareness of global issues.

75% of Raleigh International Ambassadors continued volunteering within their community as a result of being part of the programme.

"I didn't expect to get so much practical advice and ways to spread our stories in positive and impacting ways. We gained the tools to be able to go out and promote world issues using our stories and experiences as powerful ways to engage with people".

Charlotte, 2012 Raleigh Ambassador



Impact by numbers 2012

Beneficiaries

 **61,549**
people benefitting
from our projects

Sustainable use of natural resources

25 vermi
compost units 

 **20** azolla
pits

6 biogas
plants 

 **56** improved
ovens

Inspiring young leaders

121 training
events for
our volunteers 

£ **32%** volunteers
received a bursary

808 young
volunteers
from 32 countries 

Access to safe water and sanitation

 **182** sanitation
units

11 gravity fed
water systems 

 **6** rain water
holding tanks

Improve community resilience

6 schools 

 **3** community
centres

12 houses 

 **15** cattle
sheds

112 health 
awareness lessons

 **17** health
camps

Our partners

We are hugely grateful to all of our partners, without whom our work would not be possible.



Borneo:

Asian Forestry Company
Bornean Sun Bear Conservation Centre
Borneo Divers
Partners of Community Organisations Sabah (PACOS) Trust
Sabah Parks
The Sabah Forestry Department
The Royal Society
Yayasan Sabah



Costa Rica:

Centro Agronomico Tropical de Investigacion y Ensenaza (CATIE)
Ministerio de Educaci3n de Costa Rica
Sistema Nacional de Areas de Conservacio (SINAC)
Widecast Costa Rica



 **Raleigh**
International

www.raleighinternational.org
info@raleighinternational.org
+ 44 (0) 207 183 1270

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India:

Centre for Tribal and Rural Development Trust
MYKAPS
MYRADA



Nicaragua:

Asociaci3n Nicaragüense para el Desarrollo Sostenible
Cooperativa Juan Francisco Paz Silva
El Foro Mirafior
Fundaci3n Casa Campo
El Instituto de Promocion Humana
UCA Mirafior



UK:

Amber Foundation
Aspire Training
Blue Triangle
Family Mosaic
International Service
Ismaili Council
Kids Company
London YMCA
Mosaic Creative
MYDG
Newtown Community Centre
Perth City Base
Progressio
Rathbone
Restless Development
Romford YMCA
Sussex Central YMCA
Tearfund
The Prince's Trust Fairbridge Programme
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West Sussex YOT
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