
2009 Kemper Internships

Kemper Internships

Spring 2009

Green Empowerment

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The background features a dark grey gradient with vertical green stripes on the left and right sides. Several green circles of varying sizes are scattered across the page, with a cluster of five circles on the left and one circle on the bottom right.

INTERNSHIP 2009: GREEN EMPOWERMENT

By Martha Inouye



GREEN EMPOWERMENT

www.greenempowerment.org

- Develops renewable energy, clean water delivery, and watershed restoration systems in Latin America and Southeast Asia.
- *We collaborate with rural communities through our network of partner NGOs*



BEN LINDER MEMORIAL FUND

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ben_Linder



“La luz que encendió brillará para siempre.”



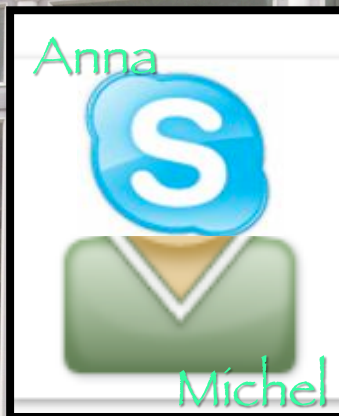
INITIAL EXPECTATIONS/PERCEPTIONS

- Enthusiastic about their mission and goals
 - Renewable Energy
 - Community involvement and development
- Ready to affect change while working for a worthy cause to help those in need
- A personalized experience





THE HOME FRONT: GE's HEADQUARTERS





MY ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Grant Writing – grounding a daunting task
 - Henry E. Niles Foundation
 - “Improved Health and Well-being through Water for Villages in Peru, Nicaragua and the Philippines”
 - McCargar Foundation – BGET
 - “Solar Power for Medical Clinic and Student Dormitory”





MY ACCOMPLISHMENTS (CON'T)

- Project Profiles - two-page spreads describing current projects and activities

Agua es Vida

WATER PROJECTS IN TUMBADEN, SAN PABLO, PERU!

QUICK FACTS:

Location: District of Tumbaden, Province of San Pablo, Peru

Project Date: 2009

People Served by Water Access: Approx. 3710

Technology Used: Gravity-fed water systems

Development after Pump Installation: Potable water, safe households, Improved health and education

Cost per person: \$200

Jacinta Terán Becerra lives in Vitis Alegre and walks every day to an open stream to collect drinking water. She collects the untreated water in a 20 liter milk jug and returns home to her husband and 8 year old daughter who use it for drinking, cooking, and washing. In the summer the stream becomes a trickle, and she has to walk 1000meters to the river to get water. Vitis Alegre is one of nine communities in the district of Tumbaden in Northern Peru with severe drinking water problems. Despite being adjacent to the world's second largest goldmine, these communities are considered one of the poorest districts in the region. The families in Tumbaden live in very dispersed adobe houses and subsist on milk from dairy cattle, potatoes and barley. While these are abundant springs, the prevalence of cattle and open pastures makes drinking from open pools of spring-fed water dangerous. There is a high incidence of gastrointestinal infections. None of these communities have access to electricity. Being far from the national grid, they are especially appropriate for wind, solar and micro-hydro technologies.

Who will benefit and how?
The nine communities of Tumbaden have 742 families with a population of 3,370 and nine schools. GE wants to decrease the incidence of water-borne diseases by providing a safe supply of drinking water. At the same time, the project will highlight their awareness of the environment and lead to planting trees and implementing watershed protection. Tree nurseries for reforestation will be established in collaboration with local schools.

Your generous donation will fund these important projects
Visit www.greenempowerment.org and click "Donate Now"

Bringing Light to Q'ero, Peru

EDUCATION AT THE HEART OF THE PROJECT !

QUICK FACTS:

Location: Q'ero, Province of Pasco, Peru

Project Date: 18 months for completion

People Served by Water Access: Approx. 1474 students

Technology Used: Hydro-electric and Solar panels

Total Cost: \$379,844

In-Kind Contributions: \$44,527

In the heart of the Province of Pasco, in Southern Peru lie five communities of the Q'ero Nation, located high in the mountains in extreme isolation from populated areas and the national electrical grid. The people of Q'ero are Quechua speaking living descendants of the Inca. Through them, Inca religion, music, and traditional knowledge have remained alive. The future of the children is in danger. They are malnourished, uneducated, and witnesses to a deteriorating quality of life. The time is now to provide a clean, safe and inviting educational environment for them. Based on the wishes of their leadership, a joint decision was made to provide the Q'ero youth with an excellent primary education, Green Empowerment, Soluciones Prácticas-ITDG, and Project leaders are working with local and regional governments to answer the wishes

of the Q'ero Nation and enhance the educational opportunities of the communities while maintain their culture and traditions.

Direct from the Village
The Q'ero stressed their desire to improve the education of their children as their top priority. The children's parents wish for them to complete high school, a goal rarely attainable under current conditions. Two individuals that have worked with the Q'ero for many years listened to the communities wishes pulled together government agencies and a network of NGOs including Green Empowerment and its partner organization Soluciones Prácticas-ITDG.

Your generous donation will fund these important projects
Visit www.greenempowerment.org and click "Donate Now"

The Power of Numbers

Budding Partnership Provides Intercultural Exchange

QUICK FACTS:

Location: Capatzen, Peru

Project Date: 2010

People Served: Approx.

Technology Used: Micro Hydro System

Development after Pump Installation:

Total Cost:

Green Empowerment and Soluciones Prácticas are teaming up with the College of Engineering at the University of Florida to bring a better life to the peoples of Lasero, Peru. Beginning in the spring of 2010, a team of engineering students from U of F will embark on a three-part journey exploring the culture and renewable energy potential of Northern Peru. They will gain a basic understanding of the culture in a classroom setting, and then travel to Peru for micro-hydro training and complete immersion. The final leg of their journey involves a dialogue with community members of Lasero, enhancing the lives all involved.

Micro Hydro systems
Energy is inextricably linked to poverty alleviation. Yet, in Peru, approximately 70% of rural areas lack electricity. Micro hydro technology is an appropriate, environmentally benign energy form, ideal for providing electricity in these isolated communities. Using the natural flow of the river to turn a turbine-generator, these systems convert the energy inherent in moving water into electricity while emitting zero CO₂. The design of these systems varies according to the flow and head of the river. The region of Lasero is characterized by low-lying areas with high volumes of water and low flows. Therefore, a low-head system design will be used. A portion of the river is diverted into an intake canal, causing a propeller to rotate and generate electricity, which will be used to power the village of Lasero. The water is then released back into the river below the intake canal.

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SKILL DEVELOPMENT

- During my time at Green Empowerment, I was able to:
 - Refine communicative skills (both oral and written) and adaptability
 - Synthesize a variety of resource materials and information
 - Develop technical writing and research skills
 - Demonstrate flexibility and commitment to learning
 - Formulate relevant questions and develop ways to produce clear answers



INSIGHTS GAINED

- The value of being assertive (theme reoccurring again and again)
 - Put out your feelers. Make as many contacts within the workplace as possible.
- One's productivity, in large part, depends upon one's initiative (school vs. jobs)
- Reiterated that nothing is simple...Things take time and coordination
- Adapting to relationships



INSIGHTS GAINED (CON'T)

- The variety of projects that I have completed and am currently working on has given me the opportunity to learn about conflicts and epidemics of which I was previously unaware.
- The setting in which I work is very important.
- Most importantly, I have learned that there are other paths that would better suit my goals and passions



A GOOD ANALOGY OR SOMETHING

- Internal structure and organization





AND WHAT ABOUT KEMPER?

- An exploratory opportunity to work with an organization which focuses on a local community, environmental issues or local business
- Provide an opportunity for interdisciplinary interaction with your peers through a seminar that meets periodically, in support of your internship
- Provide training and support in documenting and presenting the work you have done in your internship





GOAL 1: AN EXPLORATORY OPPORTUNITY TO WORK WITH AN ORGANIZATION WHICH FOCUSES ON A LOCAL COMMUNITY, ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES OR LOCAL BUSINESS

- The support provided through the Kemper program helped me secure the internship as well as benefit the most from the experience
- An opportunity to receive valuable insights into a chosen field through an internship and interdisciplinary seminar
 - An outsider with an insider's perspective





GOAL 2: PROVIDE AN OPPORTUNITY FOR INTERDISCIPLINARY INTERACTION WITH YOUR PEERS THROUGH A SEMINAR THAT MEETS PERIODICALLY, IN SUPPORT OF YOUR INTERNSHIP

- Provided a community with which to share my experiences; a support network
- Fostered interdisciplinary communication through the blog and monthly meetings
- Offered peer feedback, reassurance, and support as well as a venue to release uneasiness and/or distress
- Meetings were a space to debrief and seek guidance
- Other experiences against which to judge our own





GOAL 3: PROVIDE TRAINING AND SUPPORT IN DOCUMENTING AND PRESENTING THE WORK YOU HAVE DONE IN YOUR INTERNSHIP

- Learning how to present one's work and accomplishments is as equally as important as gaining experience. Kemper aided in my ability to present myself to an audience (presentation of self)
- Reflections gave an opportunity to reflect





CLOSING REMARKS

- Throughout my entire experience with Green Empowerment and the associated Kemper program, I have had a large support network of peers, supervisors, and instructors
- Thank you to everyone who made this possible

