SUNY-ESF Engineering for a Sustainable Society: Changing the World One Community at a Time

The SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry Engineering for a Sustainable Society Club (Engineers Without Borders) (ESS/EWB) is transforming the way we think about global humanitarian relief. Each project that Engineering for a Sustainable Society has completed or plans to complete has one goal in mind: to create a more sustainable world for future generations. For every project ESS/EWB adopts, months of humanitarian engineering research precede trips and construction. Through this, club members have expanded their knowledge of clean energy, sustainable construction and cultural diversity. The club has successfully implemented a system that delivers potable water to a community in Honduras. Through the use of simple, yet impactful technologies including solar panels and hydroelectric generators, electricity has been brought to communities in Peru and Dominica. In Haiti, ESS/EWB is currently assessing reforestation efforts as well as building human waste composting solutions. A project in Guatemala is improving sanitation conditions for a primary school in the Palajunoj Valley. ESS/EWB provides technical support for all of these projects through oral communication, written directions for troubleshooting, as well as CAD drafts to communicate design. This empowers communities to sustain the initiative with the end goal of long-term sustainability. ESS/EWB plans to continue to revolutionize humanitarian relief across the globe by providing long-term, innovative, and sustainable solutions for generations to come.

Keywords: Sustainability, Humanitarian Relief, Engineering, Engineers Without Borders, SUNY-ESF.