



"Travel with Purpose"

Directory of Internship & Volunteer Opportunities The Coffee Region of Colombia



MINGAHOUSE

Fundacion International Service Learning Colombia

Non-Profit Organization – Founded in 2014

NIT: 900867100-4

www.MingaHouse.org

What is MINGA?

“Minga entails a collaborative work system that dates back to the Incas. It refers to the commitment, contract or work agreement between two or more people. The word minga also stands for meeting or reunion.”

Guesthouse in the Heart of Coffee Region:

Minga House - Chinchina

Carrera 8 #10-28

Chinchina, Caldas, Colombia 176020

Guesthouse in the Capital City:

Minga House – Manizales

Calle 27 #23-41

Manizales, Caldas, Colombia 170006



Our **MISSION** is to bring the global community closer together through the facilitation of community service projects.

Our **VISION** is to be an impactful change agent in igniting a passion for community service and higher education among the youth in Colombia for a brighter and more positive future. To accomplish this goal, we engage the international community in sharing community service in the areas of health, education, agriculture, and the arts in Colombia so as help form meaningful role model relationships between our guest volunteers and the local Colombian community.

Projects in Action: Short-term service trips for U.S. students & professionals, internships, GAP year experiences, youth leadership development, capacity-building workshop series for community leaders, English conversation tables & Spanish immersion program.



Organizational Leadership:

Glen G. Galindo, Ed.M. - Founder & Executive Director

Email: Glen@MingaHouse.org COL Phone & WhatsApp: 57-323-505-5710

Ed.M. – Educational Leadership – Washington State University

MBA-Technology Management – University of Phoenix

B.S. – Pre-Law – California State University, Sacramento

- 20+ years in U.S. Higher Education – Recruitment, Retention, Academic Advising, Grants Management, International Programs, Service Learning
- U.S. Marine Corps – 1st Lieutenant – Data Systems & Logistics
- Migrant Students Foundation: Non-Profit in U.S. - Founder & Executive Director



Glen G. Galindo
Founder & Executive Director
Whastapp

011-57-323-505-5710

Glen@MingaHouse.org



Stiven Lopez
Service Experience Coordinator
Whastapp

011-57-310-452-3454

Stiven@MingaHouse.org



Jaidiber Castano
Adventure Experience Coordinator
Whastapp

011-57-321-627-4124

Jaidiber@MingaHouse.org



Index

• Arts	5
• Business - Human Resources – Open	8
• Business - Rec & Tourism - Pinares & Guayabal	10
• Education – English	14
• Education - Gastronomy – Barista	12
• Education - Gastronomy – Cooking	16
• Education - Physical - Teacher & Coach	18
• Education - Special - Fundacion Plena Vida	20
• Health - Child Dev, Health, and Nutrition – CoopSaludcom	22
• Health - Community Health - ISL Global Health Teams	24
• Health - Doctor of Pharmacy Experiential Elective Rotation	26
• Health - First Responder	28
• Health - Pharmacy – Yerbabuena	30
• Health - Physical Therapy - Fundacion Plena Vida	32
• Health - PreDental Internship - Arbelaez Dentistry	34
• Health - Social Work - Youth Home for Girls - Mundos Hermanos	36
• Science - Animal - Dog Sanctuary	38
• Science - Animal - Lake Bird Sanctuary	41
• Communications - Event Management – TEDx	43
• Education - English - Teacher Assistant – UCM	46
• Education - Science Environmental - TA-RA – UCM	48
• Science - Environmental - Projects – UCM	48
• Science - Informatics – BIOS	50
• Science & Global Dev & PermaAg – BioProteccion	
• Global Market Development	52
• Coffee Permaculture	62
• Biological Control	57
• Waste Management & Recycling & PR – EMAS	
• Public Relations	67
• Recycling Strategies	69
• Waste Management	71
• Minga House - Pre-Arrival Letter	73



Fundacion International Service Learning Colombia

Non-Profit Organization – Founded in 2014

NIT: 900867100-4

www.MingaHouse.org

What is MINGA?

“Minga entails a collaborative work system that dates back to the Incas. It refers to the commitment, contract or work agreement between two or more people. The word minga also stands for meeting or reunion.”

VOLUNTEER & INTERNSHIP OPPORTUNITY

Art Ambassador: Music, Theater, Dance, Literary, & Visual Arts



Learning Objectives:

No matter what type of artistic skill you already possess or would like to explore, Minga House has a public stage for you to share your skills with our community and an eager group of children ready to learn from you! Our arts internships give you an opportunity to step outside your comfort zone and connect with a new audience, meet new professors & students alike. Simply grab your gear, hop on a plane and come MINGA with us! You will return home to a new you!

Formal art schools can prepare you for a great many things, but once you complete your education, you need to develop the skills that will prepare you for the real world. Art internships give you the tools and

experiences necessary to develop your talent and grow as an individual. While in Colombia, you will be Ambassador and live your mark!

- Be an artist: Dance, Perform, Play, Sing, Create!
- Learn & Teach! Share!
- Learn how to work independently and together
- Discover hidden strengths
- Develop artistic skills
- Acquire community service hours
- Practice performing in public



- Learn how to network to promote your craft
- Build friendships with other artists
- Culture - see how the arts are important to a community's identity and success
- Learn about careers in the arts

Participant Requirements:

Educational Background: Interest and/or experience in arts such as: music, theater, dance, literary, & visual arts.

Spanish Language Skills: (None) 1 2 **3** 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 (Fluent)

Potential projects and day-to-day duties:

- Exhibit and perform, either solo or as part of a group in a variety of settings
- Participation in events & projects, either public or private
- Teaching others, either children or adults
- Learning from others, if requested

Service Term:

- **Volunteering:** Open; may be determined upon initial interview to meet mutual goals; If participant is volunteering for at least 1 week, this option may be combined with other volunteering opportunities
- **Internship:** 1-12 months
- **Work Schedule:** 4-8 hrs./day - Mon-Fri (TBD am - TBD pm) ; recommend 4 days per week
- **Service Window:** January - December



Special Skills Desired:

- All skills levels acceptable; skill level will determine optional activities as requested by participant
- Strong communication skills
- Great attitude
- Proactive
- Responsible & Mature



Index

Carrera 8 #10-28

Chinchina, Caldas, Colombia 176020

57-323-505-5710

MingaHouse.org

Calle 27 #23-41

Manizales, Caldas, Colombia 170006



Fundacion International Service Learning Colombia

Non-Profit Organization – Founded in 2014

NIT: 900867100-4

www.MingaHouse.org

What is MINGA?

“Minga entails a collaborative work system that dates back to the Incas. It refers to the commitment, contract or work agreement between two or more people. The word minga also stands for meeting or reunion.”

INTERNSHIP OPPORTUNITY

HUMAN RESOURCES – All industries



As more and more companies become multinational in nature and hire a diverse array of employees, gaining global experience with an internship abroad in human resources can be an invaluable developmental experience in the field. Not only will you have the opportunity to challenge yourself by uprooting and working within a different country, but you will gain valuable cross-cultural skills and on the job training, which you can bring forward into a very successful career. Human resource is a profession which is centered around people. By traveling the world, meeting people from all over, and pushing yourself to interact as much as possible, you will become not only a more well-rounded candidate but a more capable world citizen!

You will have the option to intern within these industries:

- Agriculture
- Education
- Exports
- Governments
- Hospitals
- Manufacturing
- Non-Profits
- Science-Laboratories
- Waste Management

Interns may participate in any of these areas of responsibility:

- Gathering research and data
- Helping to recruit & interview prospective employees
- Personnel training
- Planning events and career fairs
- Assisting with compensation and benefits



Participant Requirements:

Educational Background: Undergraduate, graduate, or professional with interest in pursuing a career within the human resources field.

Spanish Language Skills: (None) 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 (Fluent)

Potential projects and day-to-day duties:

- Assist Human Resources Manager in a wide range of projects related to HR compliance, recruiting, onboarding/orientation, employee benefits, and volunteer intern programs.
- Lead English conversation sessions for employees.
- Share with management what are the compare/contrast factors of HR policy & procedures between Colombia and the participant's country of origin
- Special project to be assigned to participant in support of his/her personal & professional interests; TBD

Service Term:

- **Internship:** 1-6 months
- **Work Schedule:** 6-8 hrs./day - Mon-Fri (TBD am - TBD pm) – recommend 4-day work week
- **Service Window:** January – December

Special Skills Desired:

- Prior experience working in an HR setting
- Self-management
- Excellent written & verbal communication
- Responsible and professional
- Proven abilities in the areas chosen
- Teamwork



[Index](#)



Fundacion International Service Learning Colombia

Non-Profit Organization – Founded in 2014

NIT: 900867100-4

www.MingaHouse.org

What is MINGA?

“Minga entails a collaborative work system that dates back to the Incas. It refers to the commitment, contract or work agreement between two or more people. The word minga also stands for meeting or reunion.”

VOLUNTEERING OPPORTUNITY

Recreation & Tourism



Learning Objectives:

The “Coffee Cultural Landscape of Colombia” is an exceptional example of a sustainable and productive cultural landscape that is unique and representative of a tradition that is a strong symbol for coffee growing areas worldwide. Among these beautiful green Andean mountains landscape is an up & coming tourism industry. During the new post-conflict era, Colombia is experiencing a renaissance in tourism as the world’s 2nd most biodiverse country in the world; named Best Value Destination for 2017. And if you love coffee, you’ll be in heaven. Take a take a front-row seat for an extended “Paisaje Cultural Cafetero Experience,” as an active participant! Every morning you’ll start your day with a freshly cultivated & brewed cup of the best coffee in the world! Depending on availability at each worksite and interns’ background & interest, you may be matched to one or more locations such as sustainable eco-farms, coffee plantations, recreational attractions, or traditional finca hotels. View videos about Coffee Region: <http://www.mingahouse.com/coffee-region.html>

- Everything about Coffee: Planting, harvesting, processing, drying, milling, exporting, tasting, roasting, grinding, brewing
- Adventure Recreation: Ziplining, waterfall repelling, horseback riding, wall climbing, paintball, hiking, & more!
- Hospitality Management: hotel management, restaurant management, tour management, customer service, online global marketing.
- AgriScience: Coffee, Cacao, Coconuts, Bananas, Citrus, Papaya, and many other unique tropical fruits and vegetables.
- Leadership: Public speaking as tour guide for the public and translator for the organization.
- Spanish: Immerse yourself in Spanish!



Participant Requirements:

Educational Background:

Undergraduate & Professionals in any of the following fields: Tourism Management, Hospitality Management, Sports & Recreation, Recreation & Leisure, Business, Education, Architecture, Food Science, Ecology, Environmental Science, Veterinary Science, Animal Science, or any other related field.

Spanish Language Skills:

(None) 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 (Fluent)

Potential projects and day-to-day duties:

- Shadow & assist various professionals as directed by supervisor
- Tasked to compare/contrast Colombian practices vs. U.S. practices then make presentation
- Support in the creation of information materials for the public
- Support in the review of current internal operations processes & procedures for improvement
- Experience the role of a 'day in the life' of a Colombian employee and/or intern at each of the worksites
- Lead as a tour guide in the daily activities for site costumers

Service Term:

- **Volunteering:** Open; may be determined upon initial interview to meet mutual goals

Available for Combo Options? YES

If participant is volunteering for at least 1 week, this option may be combined with other volunteering opportunities

- **ISL Internship:** 1-10 months

Work Schedule: 4-8 hrs./day - Monday-Sunday (TBD am - TBD pm)

Service Window:

- January to December

Special Skills Desired:

- Strong communication skills
- Great attitude
- Self-Directed
- Proactive and Responsible
- Experience at customer service
- Enjoys the outdoors and farm animals
- Related experience to tourism & recreation

DestinoCafé

[Index](#)



MINGAHOUSE

Fundacion International Service Learning Colombia

Non-Profit Organization – Founded in 2014

NIT: 900867100-4

www.MingaHouse.org

What is MINGA?

“Minga entails a collaborative work system that dates back to the Incas. It refers to the commitment, contract or work agreement between two or more people. The word minga also stands for meeting or reunion.”

INTERNSHIP OPPORTUNITY

COLOMBIAN COFFEE - BARISTA

Learning Objectives:

Coffee is a complex agricultural product that changes from year to year and deserves the utmost care in growing, harvesting, processing, roasting, and brewing. Coffee is also a very labor-intensive business. Each step requires education and much attention to detail. Baristas without the sufficient appreciation for the huge amount of labor and commitment that has taken place prior to having the opportunity to prepare a single cup of coffee for their customers will never truly be a great barista.



If you want to learn and have an awesome over-all coffee culture experience, come to Chinchina! It is in the Heart of the Coffee Region of Colombia, where you will find the one of the most unique and complete coffee culture in the world as recognized by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization. Chinchina is the home of the Colombian Federation Coffee Laboratories and the largest Instant Coffee Factory in Latin America. Thus, along with learning the many ways to prepare a delicious cup of coffee, we offer integral hands-on experience in all 9 elements of the specialty coffee industry from seed to cup.

- | | | |
|---------------|---------------|-----------------------|
| 1. Growing | 4. Fermenting | 7. Roasting |
| 2. Harvesting | 5. Drying | 8. Quality Analysis |
| 3. Depulping | 6. Sorting | 9. Brewing & Enjoying |

Novice baristas and aficionados alike can learn the following:

- How to use and clean a coffee bean grinder and espresso machine
- How to add foam and texture to milk
- Adding artistic designs to the top of a latte
- Knowledge of sourcing, roasting, extraction, milk temperatures and different brewing methods
- Coffee production process, from seed to cup, and how each step affects the final beverage
- Characteristics of different types of coffee



MINGAHOUSE

- Roasting process, roast type, caffeine and Swiss Water decaffeination
- Characteristics of Fair Trade, fairly traded, and Rain Forest Alliance coffee
- Dimensions of coffees grown in different regions
- How to create a drink for a customer based on his individual preferences

Participant Requirements:

Educational Background: N/A

Spanish Language Skills: (None) 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 (Fluent)

Potential projects and day-to-day duties:

- Preparing to open the store
- Taking customer orders
- Grinding coffee beans
- Preparing coffee for customers
- Cleaning coffee machines and equipment
- Creating stock displays
- Keeping track of inventory
- Preparing the store to close

Service Term:

- **Internship:** Open; may be determined upon initial interview to meet mutual goals; If participant is volunteering for at least 2 weeks, this option may be combined with other volunteering opportunities
- **Term:** 2 weeks to 12 months
- **Work Schedule:** 6-8 hrs./day - Mon-Fri (TBD am - TBD pm)
- **Service Window:** January - December

Special Skills Desired:

- An extroverted and vivacious personality
- Top notch customer service skills
- Ability to work well under pressure multitasking
- Proactive and working well independently
- Attention and eye for detail
- Flexible and works well with a team
- Knowledge of health, safety, and hygiene in retail setting
-



CINNAMON



LIGHT



CITY/MEDIUM



FULL CITY



DARK



FRENCH



ITALIAN



[Index](#)



MINGAHOUSE

Fundacion International Service Learning Colombia

Non-Profit Organization – Founded in 2014

NIT: 900867100-4

www.MingaHouse.org

What is MINGA?

“Minga entails a collaborative work system that dates back to the Incas. It refers to the commitment, contract or work agreement between two or more people. The word minga also stands for meeting or reunion.”

VOLUNTEERING OPPORTUNITY

English as a Second Language – Instructor/Teacher



Colombia Program Description:

The participant will have the option to choose or mix their student audience levels; K-12, technical college, university, adult education, private 1-on-1, and/or informal community conversation tables. Depending on their teaching experience, the participant's desired challenge, and what is permitted by local law, participants may teach alongside an existing certified English professor or teach solo. Upon your interview, we will advise you what is recommended for your

unique situation and we'll share with you options you may have upon your availability. Participants may experience:

- Challenge your leadership & communication skills in a foreign setting under different practices.
- Learn to develop lessons and teaching styles to meet the needs of unique individuals and groups abroad.
- Learn to manage professional relationships between the students and educators of a different culture.
- Gained experience and confidence in classroom management as a lead teacher of foreign students.
- Opportunity to develop after-school curricular activities & participate in other community service roles.
- Interact with students' families giving you a deeper cultural experience.
- Spanish immersion!



Participant Requirements:

Educational Background:

Undergraduate & Professionals in any of the following fields: Native English-speakers, teacher education, professional educators, TEFL/TESOL certified professionals (English)

Spanish Language Skills:

(None) 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 (Fluent)

Potential projects and day-to-day duties:

- Lead English conversation tables for students and professionals.
- Create and manage lesson plans.
- Promote cultural and conversational activities.
- Design class plans, reading, and oral production projects.
- Assist teaching staff.

Service Term:

- **Volunteering:** Open; may be determined upon initial interview to meet mutual goals

Available for Combo Options? YES

If participant is volunteering for at least 2 weeks, this option may be combined with other volunteering opportunities

- **Work Schedule:** 4-8 hrs./day - Monday-Friday (TBD); 10-40 hours per week
- **ISL Internship:** 3-10 months (1 quarter or 1 semester)

Service Window:

- January - December

Special Skills Desired:

- Desire to help students learn English a second language
- Confident to lead classes and conversation groups
- Some teaching experience
- Be positive, respectful and responsible
- Enthusiastic, energetic, independent, and resourceful



[Index](#)



Fundacion International Service Learning Colombia

Non-Profit Organization – Founded in 2014

NIT: 900867100-4

www.MingaHouse.org

What is MINGA?

“Minga entails a collaborative work system that dates back to the Incas. It refers to the commitment, contract or work agreement between two or more people. The word minga also stands for meeting or reunion.”

VOLUNTEER & INTERNSHIP OPPORTUNITY

GASTRONOMY - COLOMBIAN TRADITIONAL CUISINE



Learning Objectives:

Immersing yourself in Spanish while experiencing a new culture through its food is one of the main reasons people love to travel to Latin America. To be able to learn about another culture's cuisine and how to prepare it yourself is a great opportunity, that should be the goal of every internship abroad, each bite of each meal is a unique blend of tastes, smells, and textures. Interning abroad in culinary arts is more valuable than completing an internship in your home country, because you can explore a new culture and lifestyle while simultaneously learning about the local foods, cooking methods, and flavors. You will learn to cook from a variety

of Colombian cooks, to include a finalist of Colombia's Best Chef TV Show! Interns apply culinary arts skills (food prep, menu planning, customer service, sanitation, food safety) in a workplace setting. Interns will learn:

- Practice kitchen teamwork
- Mathematics and measurement
- Reading methods
- Study food, cooking, dining trends
- Nutrition and health awareness
- Ability to make excellent food, even with less-than-ideal or limited ingredients
- food safety and safe use of tools and equipment
- creativity when adding their own spin on a certain recipe



Participant Requirements:

- **Educational Background:** Have some knowledge of culinary arts & cooking, food science & nutrition

Spanish Language Skills: (None) 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 (Fluent)

Potential projects and day-to-day duties:

- Support chefs and project team on client projects
- Help Chefs develop recipes and menu items for client projects. Includes food, ingredient and menu preparation.
- Accurately formulate, test and document all recipes and formulations using standard forms and procedures, including entering recipe data in Chef Tec software
- Responsible for managing your schedule, and knowing the kitchen production and client deliverable schedule
- Shop and run errands for ingredients, supplies, and materials
- Shipping and receiving ingredients
- Assist in the creation of kitchen operations materials for client projects
- Research ingredients, vendors, equipment, packaging, and restaurant and culinary concepts
- Maintain cleanliness of workstation, storage area, and kitchen

Service Term:

- **Volunteering:** Open; may be determined upon initial interview to meet mutual goals; If participant is volunteering for at least 1 week, this option may be combined with other volunteering opportunities
- **Internship:** 1-12 months
- **Work Schedule:** 6-8 hrs./day - Mon-Fri (TBD am - TBD pm)
- **Service Window:** January - December

Special Skills Desired:

- Equally comfortable creating food in a test kitchen, a fine dining restaurant or in a quick service facility
- Understand and can manage recipe documentation
- Strong written and verbal communication
- Professional demeanor
- Able to manage heavy workload, prioritize well to meet tight deadlines
- Resourceful, flexible and able to creatively solve problems
- Proactive and reliable to fellow team members and managers
- Impeccable attention to detail and minimal errors
- Knowledge of health, safety, and hygiene in retail setting

[Index](#)





MINGAHOUSE

Fundacion International Service Learning Colombia

Non-Profit Organization – Founded in 2014

NIT: 900867100-4

www.MingaHouse.org

What is MINGA?

“Minga entails a collaborative work system that dates back to the Incas. It refers to the commitment, contract or work agreement between two or more people. The word minga also stands for meeting or reunion.”

VOLUNTEERING OPPORTUNITY

Sports Mgnt & Physical Education – Teacher & Coach



Colombia Program Description:

Individuals passionate about sports are invited to partner with existing physical education teachers and/or coaches in public & private schools as well as club teams. Your guiding principals will be to promote a positive health lifestyle through physical fitness, nutrition, and education. While soccer is king in Colombia, you will have the opportunity to teach & coach your favorite sport too! Sharing and creating new friendships is the real name of the game! Be a sports ambassador!

Colombia Program Highlights

- Volunteer as a Sports or Physical Education teacher in a private/public school or community club team.
- Volunteer as a coach in a private/public school and/or community club team.
- Increase your soccer knowledge & skills by receiving guidance from experienced teachers and coaches.
- Earn international volunteering experience in the fields of Education, Sports, and Youth Development.
- BONUS: Experience everything Coffee! Planting, harvesting, processing, drying, milling, exporting, tasting, roasting, grinding, brewing
- DOUBLE BONUS: Adventure Recreation: Ziplining, waterfall repelling, horseback riding, wall climbing, paintball, hiking, & more!
- SUPER BONUS: Help manage a sports club team by helping to organize community efforts to fundraise, and seek donations incountry and abroad; help them grow their game schedule
- WOW BONUS: Spanish: Immerse yourself in Spanish in a meaningful valuable role!



Participant Requirements:

Educational Background: Undergraduate & Professionals in any of the following fields: Health, education, all others, open

Spanish Language Skills: (None) 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 (Fluent)

Potential projects and day-to-day duties:

- Shadow & assist various professionals within the field as directed by supervisor
- Tasked to compare/contrast Colombian practices vs. U.S. practices then make presentation
- Assist in the creation of information materials for the public
- Assist in the review of organization's current operations processes & procedures for improvement
- Experience a 'day in the life' of your Colombian counterpart
- Assist the teacher/coach in preparing for classes, practices, and sport matches
- Substitute teach/coach if opportunity arises
- Lead class & practice session discussions
- Introduce, teach & coach your favorite sport

Service Term:

- **Volunteering:** Open; may be determined upon initial interview to meet mutual goals
Available for Combo Options? YES
 If participant is volunteering for at least 1 week, this option may be combined with other volunteering opportunities
 - **ISL Internship:** 1-10 months
- Work Schedule:** 6-8 hrs./day - Monday-Sunday (TBD am - TBD pm)

Service Window:

- January to December

Special Skills Desired:

- Experience teaching
- Experience coaching
- Experience refereeing
- Strong interest in sports
- Solid ability to work as part of a team
- General knowledge of physical fitness
- Solid organizational skills
- Ability to motivate others
- Reasonable skills in a wide range of physical activities

[Index](#)



MINGAHOUSE

Fundacion International Service Learning Colombia

Non-Profit Organization – Founded in 2014

NIT: 900867100-4

www.MingaHouse.org

What is MINGA?

“Minga entails a collaborative work system that dates back to the Incas. It refers to the commitment, contract or work agreement between two or more people. The word minga also stands for meeting or reunion.”

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY

SPECIAL EDUCATION – Program Assistant



Learning Objectives:

Fundacion Vida Plan & Saludable is a non-profit organization founded by three local women committed to develop their community's first quality special education facility. They are a dentist, a physical therapist and a special education teacher. They are exemplary in their dedication and commitment to bring this

project to life over the last couple of years. You will now only learn from three professions within their field, but you will spend time with three of the most resilient women you will ever meet.

As a Minga House Special Education Intern at Fundacion Vida Plena & Saludable, your work to examine and improve education will make a difference in the future of children, and will help to break down barriers and stereotypes. With your community mentor, you'll learn about the obstacles faced by community organizations working to provide quality educational opportunities. You'll work with students and teachers who face a diverse range of challenges, share special education techniques and work individually with students to gain practical experience. Your work will not only further your global perspective of special education, but will also bring important visibility, legitimacy, and respect to those community organizations and partners working with students with special needs.

Participant Requirements:

Educational Background:

Undergraduate, graduate, or professionals in any of the following fields: Special education, child development, elementary education, social work, psychology, or any health field.

Spanish Language Skills:

(None) 1 2 **3** 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 (Fluent)



Potential projects and day-to-day duties:

- Assist staff in educating and supporting students and parents
- Tasked to compare/contrast Colombian practices vs. U.S. practices then make presentation
- Support in the review of current internal operations processes & procedures for improvement
- Support in the daily tasks and other duties assigned by supervisor

Service Term:

- **Volunteering:** Open; may be determined upon initial interview to meet mutual goals; If participant is volunteering for at least 1 week, this option may be combined with other volunteering opportunities
- **Internship:** 3-12 months
- **Work Schedule:** 6-8 hrs./day - Monday-Friday (TBD am - TBD pm) – Lunch will be provided
- **Service Window:** January - December

Special Skills Desired:

- Interest in special education
- Strong communication skills
- Great attitude
- Proactive
- Safety Conscious
- Responsible & Mature



[Index](#)



MINGAHOUSE

Fundacion International Service Learning Colombia

Non-Profit Organization – Founded in 2014

NIT: 900867100-4

www.MingaHouse.org

What is MINGA?

“Minga entails a collaborative work system that dates back to the Incas. It refers to the commitment, contract or work agreement between two or more people. The word minga also stands for meeting or reunion.”

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY

CHILD DEVELOPMENT, HEALTH & NUTRITION



Learning Objectives:

CoopSaludcom is a leader in the execution of federal grants for support of early childhood development. Coopsaludcom manages programs in education, nutrition, cultural, recreational, self-management and general health within the municipalities of Chinchiná serving 1178 children at 6 child development centers that orient pedagogical strategies focused on the integral development with quality of each child. One key service is a program focused on developing mothers into community leaders to foster a self-reliant locally-based mechanism by which mothers pool together to help each other. Then, these community leaders help in identifying other community members who are in need of CoopSaludcom's services such as early child & mother health education and nutritional support.

Interns will receive guidance and supervision from the Head Nutritionist as they join the nursing assistant teams in handling common responsibilities of accessing & monitoring children's health, developing nutritional plans, and conducting health education campaign. Interns will have opportunity to spend time in classrooms working with educators as well as in the field conducting family visits.

Participant Requirements:

Educational Background: Undergraduate, graduate, or professionals in any of the following fields: Nutrition, child development, elementary education, social work, psychology, or any health or education fields.

Spanish Language Skills: (None) 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 (Fluent)



Potential projects and day-to-day duties:

- Assist staff in educating and supporting children and their Mothers
- Tasked to compare/contrast Colombian practices vs. U.S. practices then make presentation
- Support in the review of current internal operations processes & procedures for improvement
- Support in the daily tasks and other duties assigned by supervisor

○ **Sample Research Project:**

Compare average child's diet intake during ages 0-5 between U.S. & Colombian children. Determine its long-term physical development impact. Intern will write paper and make presentation at project completion.

Service Term:

- **Volunteering:** Open; may be determined upon initial interview to meet mutual goals; If participant is volunteering for at least 1 week, this option may be combined with other volunteering opportunities
- **Internship:** 1-12 months
- **Work Schedule:** 6-8 hrs./day - Mon-Fri (TBD am - TBD pm)
- **Service Window:** January - December

Special Skills Desired:

- Interest in child development, health & nutritional education
- Strong communication skills
- Great attitude
- Proactive
- Safety Conscious
- Responsible & Mature



Index



Fundacion International Service Learning Colombia

Non-Profit Organization – Founded in 2014

NIT: 900867100-4

www.MingaHouse.org

What is MINGA?

“Minga entails a collaborative work system that dates back to the Incas. It refers to the commitment, contract or work agreement between two or more people. The word minga also stands for meeting or reunion.”

VOLUNTEER & INTERNSHIP OPPORTUNITY

Community Health – Colombia



Learning Objectives:

Community health is a major field of study within the medical and clinical sciences which focuses on the maintenance, protection, and improvement of the health status of population groups and communities as opposed to the health of individual patients. During this rotation, you will experience how Colombian health professionals from different specialized fields view Colombian community health. 2-week volunteers/interns may choose up to 3 different work sites in which to shadow. Participants who stay from 2-12 weeks may either spend more time in those 1-3 sites or may switch rotations every two weeks. Upon an interview to determine your professional goals and interests, a recommendation will be made as to where you should invest your time learning.



- Hospital Rotations
- Retirement Homes & Hospice
- Public Health Campaigns
- CNA Tech School
- Regional Hospital
- Rural Medical Clinic
- Physical Therapy Clinic
- Traditional Medicine
- Special Education Support
- Sex Workers Childcare Center
- Nutrition Program
- Pharmacy & Health Store
- Optometry
- Youth Home for Girls
- HMO
- Health Products Laboratory
- Global Health Team – Bilingual Assistant



Participant Requirements:

Educational Background:

Undergraduate & Professionals in any of the following fields: Medicine, Pre-Med, Nursing, Physical Therapy, Dental, Public Health, Nutrition, Pharmacy, Education, and/or Health Management

Spanish Language Skills:

(None) 1 2 3 4 **5** 6 7 8 9 10 (Fluent)

Potential projects and day-to-day duties:

- Shadow & assist health professionals as directed
- Tasked to compare/contrast Colombian practices vs. U.S. practices (possible research project)
- Support in the creation of information materials for the public
- Support in the review of current internal operations processes & procedures for improvement
- Support in the daily tasks and other duties assigned by supervisor
- Play the role of a 'day in the life' of a Colombian employee and/or intern at each of the worksites
- Participate as a Bilingual Assistant with ISL's Global Health Teams if team is available

Service Term:

- **Volunteering:** Open; may be determined upon initial interview to meet mutual goals
Available for Combo Options? YES
If participant is volunteering for at least 1 week, this option may be combined with 2 other volunteering opportunities
- **Internship:** 1-10 months
- **Work Schedule:** 6-8 hrs./day - Monday-Friday (TBD am - TBD pm) – Recommend 4 days/wk.

Service Window:

- January to December

Special Skills Desired:

- Interest in community health
- Strong communication skills
- Great attitude
- Proactive
- Self-Directed
- Responsible & Mature



[Index](#)



MINGA HOUSE

Fundacion International Service Learning Colombia

Non-Profit Organization – Founded in 2014

NIT: 900867100-4

www.MingaHouse.org

What is MINGA?

“Minga entails a collaborative work system that dates back to the Incas. It refers to the commitment, contract or work agreement between two or more people. The word minga also stands for meeting or reunion.”

ADVANCED PRACTICE EXPERIENCE/EXTERNSHIP/ROTATION

DOCTOR OF PHARMACY – EXPERIENTIAL ELECTIVE



The Minga House facilitates experiential learning opportunities for pharmacy practice at a wide variety of partner settings. Students and professionals benefit from the flexibility to choose among 1-5 different complementary worksites in order to meet the participant's desired specific experience within the set 240-hour rotation requirement. During this structured experience, candidates will gain an over-all understanding of Colombia's healthcare system from the view of a pharmacist at various levels & perspectives.

- Hospital San Vicente de Paul – Public, rural, level 1 (2-6 wks)
- Hospital Infantil Univ – Cruz Roja - Private, urban, level 3 (2-6 wks)
- Yerba Buena – Traditional Medicine Shop (1 wk)
- Los Auces – Nutritional Supplements (1 wk)
- Fito Medics – Laboratories (2-6 wks min)





Participant Requirements:

Educational Background: Doctoral candidates from a pharmacy program; pharmacists, medical school students, medical doctors, other health professionals, science doctoral programs, and other related fields.

Spanish Language Skills: (None) 1 2 3 4 5 6 **7** 8 9 10 (Fluent)

Preceptor: Dr. Anibal Rueda, M.D. (Hospital San Marcos, Chinchina)

Potential projects and day-to-day duties:

- Shadow professionals in all their daily professional activities & responsibilities

Service Term:

- **Period:** 6 weeks (240 hours)
- **Work Schedule:** 6-8 hrs./day - Mon-Fri (TBD am - TBD pm) – recommend 5-day work week
- **Service Window:** January – December
- **Housing:** Minga House – Guesthouse & Training Center for international volunteers

Special Skills Desired:

- Knowledge in pharmacy
- Self-management
- Assertive communication
- Social development
- Responsible and professional
- Respectful
- History of community service
- Empathy for others
- Teamwork





MINGAHOUSE

Fundacion International Service Learning Colombia

Non-Profit Organization – Founded in 2014

NIT: 900867100-4

www.MingaHouse.org

What is MINGA?

“Minga entails a collaborative work system that dates back to the Incas. It refers to the commitment, contract or work agreement between two or more people. The word minga also stands for meeting or reunion.”

VOLUNTEER & INTERNSHIP OPPORTUNITY

COMMUNITY FIRST RESPONDERS

Fire/ EMS



Opportunities to train and share with Colombian first responders in the fields of medicine, and firefighting will offer an unforgettable and valuable experience for anyone who has worked in the field. Much planning is required for this opportunity -- a background check may be conducted to verify the participants experience, in addition to a video interview by the volunteer site's staff.

Internship Learning Objectives:

- To learn how Colombian First Responders train & operate to meet their unique setting & resources
- To share how American First Responders train & operate to meet their unique setting & resources

Participant Requirements:

Educational Background: First Aid Certified, CPR Certified, plus prior experience at least in one of the following professional roles: firefighting, EMT, corpsman or combat medic, paramedic, nurse, or medical doctor.

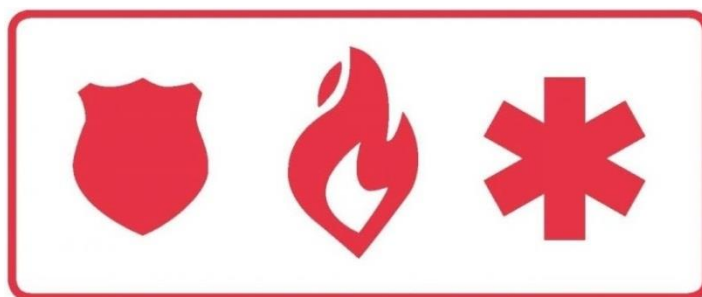
Spanish Language Skills: (None) 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 (Fluent)

**Service Term:**

- **Volunteer:** Open; may be determined upon initial interview to meet mutual goals
Available for Combo Options? YES
If participant is volunteering for at least 2 weeks, this option may be combined with other volunteering opportunities
- **Internship:** 2-12 months
- **Work Schedule:** minimum of (2) 12-hour shifts/week – recommend (3-4) 12-hour shifts/week
- **Service Window:** January – December

Special Skills Desired:

- Strong interest in community health
- Strong communication & presentation skills
- Strong problem solving skills
- Good physical condition
- Strong leadership qualities
- Proven effective team member
- Great attitude
- Proactive
- Self-Directed
- Responsible & Mature



[Index](#)



MINGAHOUSE

Fundacion International Service Learning Colombia

Non-Profit Organization – Founded in 2014

NIT: 900867100-4

www.MingaHouse.org

What is MINGA?

“Minga entails a collaborative work system that dates back to the Incas. It refers to the commitment, contract or work agreement between two or more people. The word minga also stands for meeting or reunion.”

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY

Traditional Medicine – Customer Relations



Learning Objectives:

Herbalism is the use of plants for therapeutic purposes to treat and prevent disease and promote health. Colombia is the 2nd most biodiverse nation in the world and most Colombians accept herbs as part of reliable natural forms of healing. Our 2-generation family-owned herbal shop regularly dispenses 118 herbs. Volunteering you may learn:

- How to identify herbs
- How to grow herbs
- The use of herbs
- “Wildcrafting” or picking herbs
- How to run an herbs shop
- Manufacturing herbal products

Participant Requirements:

Educational Background:

Undergraduate & Professionals in any of the following fields: Pharmacy, Medicine, Pre-Med, Nursing, Public Health, Botany, Public Relations, Marketing, and/or Business Administration

Spanish Language Skills:

(None) 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 (Fluent)



MINGAHOUSE

Potential projects and day-to-day duties:

- Support in the creation of catalog for homeopathic products
- Support in the development of advertising campaigns
- Investigation of new uses of medicinal plants
- Support in the creation of information leaflets for the public
- Support in the review of current internal operations processes & procedures for improvement
- Support in the implementation of new packaging for the commercialization of medicinal plants
- Support in the daily tasks and other duties assigned by store manager

Service Term:

- **Volunteering:** Open; may be determined upon initial interview to meet mutual goals

Available for Combo Options? YES

If participant is volunteering for at least 2 weeks, this option may be combined with other volunteering opportunities

- **Internship:** 1-10 months (must be full-time, exclusive to one site first month)
- **Work Schedule:** 8 hrs./day - Monday-Friday (8:00am -12:00pm & 2:00pm a 6:00 pm)

Service Window:

- January to November

Special Skills Desired:

- Interest in traditional & herbal medicine
- Strong communication skills
- Ability to design marketing materials
- Ability to use social networks for promotion
- Great attitude
- Proactive



[Index](#)



MINGAHOUSE

Fundacion International Service Learning Colombia

Non-Profit Organization – Founded in 2014

NIT: 900867100-4

www.MingaHouse.org

What is MINGA?

“Minga entails a collaborative work system that dates back to the Incas. It refers to the commitment, contract or work agreement between two or more people. The word minga also stands for meeting or reunion.”

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY

Physical Therapy - Assistant

Learning Objectives:

Physical therapy internships give students the opportunity to learn about the science of kinesiology in a thrilling environment. Whether or not you are working towards a major in sports medicine or physical therapy, an internship in physical therapy can be a great experience. There are several skills you can expect to develop during your physical therapy internship in Colombia.

Skill	Description
Active Learning	Show initiative in learning career skills by observing treatments, shadowing PTs, asking questions about purpose and outcome treatments. Also learn the “FLOW” of an outpatient PT clinic and work to maintain that flow.
Patient Communications	Become comfortable interacting with patients by greeting them, conducting warm ups, and assist with instruction and education. Colombian patients are very warm and usually always love interacting openly with interns giving the interns constant opportunity to not only practice their Spanish, but to also quickly become culturally aware and comfortable.
Equipment Operation	Proper use of equipment and help to maintain and clean equipment. Under supervision of mentor, intern will supervise patients while using the machinery.
Office Skills	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Pulling charts for upcoming patients. – Assisting in preparing Home Exercise Programs for patients. – Scheduling patient appointments. – Making and organizing patient files. – Filing insurance and patient paperwork.
Research & Application	Identify exercise programs for patients.
Vocabulary	Become familiar with the vocabulary used in the clinical setting.

Participant Requirements:



Educational Background:

Undergraduate & Professionals in any of the following fields: Physical therapy, nursing, pre-med, medicine, kinesiology, public health, nutrition, physiology, special education, and massage therapy.

Spanish Language Skills:

(None) 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 (Fluent)

Potential projects and day-to-day duties:

- Shadow & assist physical therapist as directed; both in clinic and home visits
- Tasked to compare/contrast Colombian practices vs. U.S. practices then make presentation
- Support in the review of current internal operations processes & procedures for improvement
- Welcome patients to treatment and schedule patients' new appointments
- Explain & supervise daily exercise & therapy procedures to patients
- Apply hot-cold treatments
- Create informational materials for patients and public

Service Term:

- **Volunteering:** Open; may be determined upon initial interview to meet mutual goals

Available for Combo Options? YES

If participant is volunteering for at least 1 week, this option may be combined with others

- **ISL Internship:** 1-10 months
- **Work Schedule:** 4-8 hrs./day - Mon-Fri (TBD am - TBD pm)

Service Window:

- January to December

Special Skills Desired:

- Knowledge and interest in physiology, health, and physical therapy
- Enjoys helping and interacting with new people
- Experience working in a clinical setting
- Responsible & mature
- Strong work ethics



[Index](#)



MINGAHOUSE

Fundacion International Service Learning Colombia

Non-Profit Organization – Founded in 2014

NIT: 900867100-4

www.MingaHouse.org

What is MINGA?

“Minga entails a collaborative work system that dates back to the Incas. It refers to the commitment, contract or work agreement between two or more people. The word minga also stands for meeting or reunion.”

VOLUNTEER & INTERNSHIP OPPORTUNITY

Pre-DENTAL



Rafael • Juliana • Arturo
Arbelaez

Learning Objectives:

Whether you are already in a pre-dental career track or you are considering changing your career path, spending time observing real dentists in their dental clinic with real patients will be very helpful to your decision-making process. In our Colombia Pre-Dental Internship, you will work with Arbelaez Family Dentistry, a Mom-Dad-Son team of very experienced dentists, who run a very successful national practice where you may experience endodontics, geriatric dentistry, prosthodontics, oral surgery, orthodontics, special needs dentistry, pediatric dentistry may choose to join dental public health mobile clinics for underserved neighborhoods or villages. You may also visit and be invited to join classes at a dental schools and dental hygienist technical colleges. The opportunity to visit a Dental Stem Cell Research Bank is also available.

Having work experience will no doubt help you prepare to be competitive in an applicant pool for the most sought-after dental degree programs. Equally as valuable will be your gained cross-cultural maturity & awareness, plus you will immerse yourself in Spanish geometrically improving your Spanish language skills, especially in career-specific medical Spanish. No doubt, you will stand-out from the crowd at dental school.

Participant Requirements:

Educational Background: Undergraduate, graduate, or professionals in any of the following fields: Pre-Dental, pre-medical, biology, chemistry, physiology, or other related health & sciences.

Spanish Language Skills: (None) 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 (Fluent)



Potential projects and day-to-day duties:

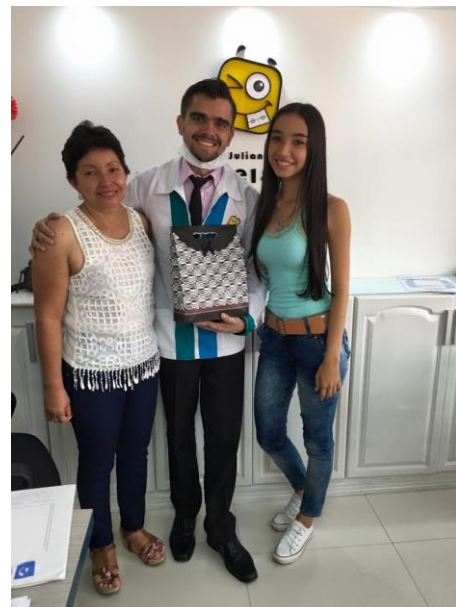
- Assist dentist & dental tech/hygienist staff in their duties.
- Tasked to compare/contrast Colombian practices vs. U.S. practices then make presentation
- Support in the review of current internal operations processes & procedures for improvement
- Support in the daily tasks and other duties assigned by supervisor

Service Term:

- **Volunteering:** Open; may be determined upon initial interview to meet mutual goals; If participant is volunteering for at least 1 week, this option may be combined with other volunteering opportunities
- **Internship:** 1-12 months
- **Work Schedule:** 6-8 hrs./day - Mon-Fri (TBD am - TBD pm)
- **Service Window:** January - December

Special Skills Desired:

- Interest in dentistry as a career
- Strong communication skills
- Great attitude
- Proactive
- Safety Conscious
- Responsible & Mature



Index



MINGAHOUSE

Fundacion International Service Learning Colombia

Non-Profit Organization – Founded in 2014

NIT: 900867100-4

www.MingaHouse.org

What is MINGA?

“Minga entails a collaborative work system that dates back to the Incas. It refers to the commitment, contract or work agreement between two or more people. The word minga also stands for meeting or reunion.”

VOLUNTEER & INTERNSHIP OPPORTUNITY

YOUTH HOME for GIRLS – Social Work



Mundos Hermanos is a non-government organization dedicated to the protection, well-being, and restoration of rights of displaced teenage girls. The facility and its staff serve as a home for up to 100 girls ages 12-17 who find themselves separated from their home & families due to many possible different situations. Some of the girls are reunited with their families after an acceptable resolution has been found by the court system regarding circumstantial issues that may be victimizing the teen such as neglect, parent drug use, sexual abuse, domestic violence, death one or both parents, and/or abandonment. The average stay at Mundos Hermanos 6 to 18 months until either the home situation is legally resolved, or until a new foster or adoption family is identified. In some cases, the child remains in the shelter until she turns 18, at which point she is permitted to begin his own adult life.

During this critical, fragile, and vulnerable period of this young person's life, Mundos Hermanos's staff seeks to help these young ladies cope with their existing emotional distress as well as utilize this period to help them develop life tools to increase their probability of having a positive future.

All these girls only ended up in the facility because the courts determine that the youth had no suitable extended family member to be found that could provide them a safe home able to meet their basic needs and the love they need. These families typically come from low social economic and educational backgrounds. The odds are stacked against them from birth. Mundos Hermanos's staff do their very best to provide these children and adolescents with a safe home and a foundation for a much better future.



Internship Learning Objectives:

- Understanding what is the meaning and value of Social Work to a community
- Be competent in creating strategies for educating people in the protection of their rights
- Have better knowledge in the many settings where and how social work applies
- Learn tools & techniques on how to engage & motivate youth
- Learn about nutrition and public health
- Be immersed in a live-in setting for social work counseling

Participant Requirements:

Educational Background: Undergraduate, Graduate & Professionals in any of the following fields: Sociology, social work, education, social design, nursing, psychology, medicine or any other related fields of study.

Spanish Language Skills: (None) 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 (Fluent)

Potential projects and day-to-day duties:

- Shadow social workers in all their activities
- Shadow nursing assistants to in providing care
- Coordinate internal public health campaigns, such as healthy lifestyles, sex education, and nutrition
- Design & lead conversation tables on various topics
- Shadow facility staff and management with various daily activities
- Assist teachers during classes or workshops; to include English classes

Service Term:

- **Internship:** 1-12 months
- **Work Schedule:** 6-8 hrs./day - Mon-Fri (TBD am - TBD pm) – recommend 4-day work week
- **Service Window:** January – December

Special Skills Desired:

- Knowledge in social work
- Self-management
- Assertive communication
- Social development
- Responsible and professional
- Respectful
- History of community service
- Empathy for others

Teamwork



[Index](#)



MINGAHOUSE

Fundacion International Service Learning Colombia

Non-Profit Organization – Founded in 2014

NIT: 900867100-4

www.MingaHouse.org

What is MINGA?

“Minga entails a collaborative work system that dates back to the Incas. It refers to the commitment, contract or work agreement between two or more people. The word minga also stands for meeting or reunion.”

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY

Dog Haven – Founder’s Assistant



Learning Objectives:

A dog haven is different from the typical animal shelter. These dogs are either too old or too sick or disabled to likely be adopted anymore unless a recovery intervention takes place. Their condition at intake is likely the reason why they were abandoned by their owners in the first place. Most of these dogs will live out the rest of their lives in this private facility 100% supported by volunteers. And, with some creativity and determination, it is still possible to provide them with extended healthy lives. Volunteers/interns in this position will have an

incredible opportunity to experience all aspects of what it is like to run the entire operation which currently holds 30-35 dogs as well as dive into the dog care awareness campaign community-wide. Participants are invited to play an active role in all aspects of operations of animal shelter management:

-
- Dog population assessment & dog selection
- Dog intake & health check-up
- Dog health care management
- Dog grooming
- Dog nutrition
- Dog adoption campaigns
- Dog spay & neuter campaign
- Dog facility building & maintenance
- Dog volunteer management
- Dog shelter fundraising & event planning
- Dog life termination decision-making
- Dog veterinarian visits



Participant Requirements:

Educational Background:

Undergraduate & Professionals in any of the following fields: Pre-veterinary, Vet-Tech, Animal Shelter management, business management, and/or truly LOVES DOGS!

Spanish Language Skills:

(None) 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 (Fluent)

Potential projects and day-to-day duties:

- Shadow & assist dog haven manager as directed
- Tasked to compare/contrast Colombian practices vs. U.S. practices then make presentation
- Support in the creation of information materials for the public
- Support in the review of current internal operations processes & procedures for improvement
- Conduct dog health & behavior management awareness campaign
- Conduct spay & neuter campaign
- Conduct fundraising campaign
- Population survey of homeless dogs in the community
- Selection of which animals are brought into the shelter
- Take dogs to the veterinarian and observe procedures

Service Term:

- **Volunteering:** Open; may be determined upon initial interview to meet mutual goals

Available for Combo Options? YES

If participant is volunteering for at least 1 week, this option may be combined with other volunteering opportunities

- **Internship:** 1-10 months
- **Work Schedule:** 6-8 hrs./day - Monday-Friday (TBD am - TBD pm)

Service Window:

- January to December

Special Skills Desired:

- Interest in animal science or veterinarian fields
- Passion & Love for dogs
- Great attitude
- Proactive
- Self-directed



- Responsible & mature
- Strong work ethics
- Experience in dog shelters
- Experience in dog grooming & health care
- Ability and willingness to help in all aspects of the mission



[Index](#)



MINGAHOUSE

Fundacion International Service Learning Colombia

Non-Profit Organization – Founded in 2014

NIT: 900867100-4

www.MingaHouse.org

What is MINGA?

“Minga entails a collaborative work system that dates back to the Incas. It refers to the commitment, contract or work agreement between two or more people. The word minga also stands for meeting or reunion.”

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY

Birds Lake Sanctuary – Project Assistant



Learning Objectives:

Colombia has 1889 species of birds! 20% of the world's birds! Plus 197 migratory birds from North America call Colombia their winter home! Learn more about tropical ecology, bird biology and conservation! Gain hands-on experience and practical research skills! Participate in campaigns on a variety of environmental issues; to assist in the provision of a comprehensive Environmental Health Service which will focus on the local environment through a combination of advice and education.

-
- Participate in the long-term monitoring of the bird communities in the nature reserve and its surroundings.
- Gain theoretical and practical knowledge in tropical bird biology
- Participate in all daily work related with the conservation of the nature reserve
- Discover what practical conservation work looks like
- Clean and care for the bird feeding stations
- Formulate ideas that lead to the conservation of local & migratory species
- Document the phenomena related to birds, fish, reptiles and other species
- Educate the public and local volunteers on issues related to the species at bird sanctuary
- Maintain record of observations on the park
- Accompany team to local conservation workshops



Participant Requirements:

Educational Background:

Undergraduate & Professionals in any of the following fields: Ornithologist, ecologists, geneticists, wildlife biologists, land managers, teachers, researchers, outdoor educators, or tour leaders

Spanish Language Skills:

(None) 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 (Fluent)

Potential projects and day-to-day duties:

- Shadow & assist Lake Bird Sanctuary director and other professional staff
- Tasked to compare/contrast Colombian practices vs. U.S. practices then make presentation
- Support in the review of current internal operations processes & procedures for improvement
- Assist in habitat conservation campaigns
- Assist in the maintenance and development of bird habitat
- Assist in customer service and education of park visitors
- Assist in the creation of information materials for the public

Service Term:

- **Volunteering:** Open; may be determined upon initial interview to meet mutual goals
- **ISL Internship:** 1-10 months
- **Work Schedule:** 4-8 hrs./day - Mon-Fri (TBD am - TBD pm)

Service Window:

- January to December

Special Skills Desired:

- Knowledge and/or interest in birds and lake life species
- Experience working in a park setting with emphasis of conservation and/or protection of species



[Index](#)



MINGAHOUSE

Fundacion International Service Learning Colombia

Non-Profit Organization – Founded in 2014

NIT: 900867100-4

www.MingaHouse.org

What is MINGA?

“Minga entails a collaborative work system that dates back to the Incas. It refers to the commitment, contract or work agreement between two or more people. The word minga also stands for meeting or reunion.”

INTERNSHIP OPPORTUNITY

EVENT MANAGEMENT – TEDx Manizales



Do you want to be a part of an events team that puts on TEDx Manizales? Do you love working with new and inspiring ideas? Then join the newly established TEDx Manizales team! Our organization is a partner to organizations in the Colombian Coffee Region looking for people with new ideas about technology, education, design, and the future. Colombia is not only the 2nd most biodiverse country in the world, but it is also one of the most vibrant & growing

economies as well. Manizales is the hub of higher education known as Colombia's "College Town." It is an exciting beautiful clean city with a high per capital education rate and an up & coming science and technology center for South America. TEDx Manizales is where all the innovators will hang out!

Interns may participate in any of these areas of responsibility:

Event Management

Do you want to help organize events? Experience all the fun of putting on salons, yearly events, and more!

Community Management

Do you love making connections within a city? Do you care about community and want to share great ideas with people? Then help us foster a community that loves and celebrates innovation.



Speaker Management

There are many incredible people with unique and innovative ideas just waiting to be heard throughout Manizales! Join our team and help reveal the Manizales potential.

Partnership

Are you gifted with excellent interpersonal skills? Do want to help network with large and reputable companies? Learn the ins and outs of our partnership program and help us create better relations within our community.

Team Management

Do you want to help manage a team and create a better working environment? Then come work with some of the brightest minds in the city at TEDx Manizales! You will experience a team like never before.

Design

Do you love design? Work with other members to create brilliant designs for our website, events, and more!

Video Editor

Do you want to help make videos like the awesome ones seen on TED.com? Are you curious about the editing process of a professional video from start-to-finish?

Participant Requirements:

Educational Background: OPEN

Spanish Language Skills: (None) 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 (Fluent)

Potential projects and day-to-day duties:

- To be determined by the date & length of your stay, plus what area of responsibility you choose.

Service Term:

- **Internship:** 1-12 months
- **Work Schedule:** 6-8 hrs./day - Mon-Fri (TBD am - TBD pm) – recommend 4-day work week
- **Service Window:** January – December

Special Skills Desired:

- Knowledge in TEDx
- Self-management
- Excellent written & verbal communication
- Responsible and professional
- Proven abilities in the areas chosen
- Teamwork



[Index](#)



Fundacion International Service Learning Colombia

Non-Profit Organization – Founded in 2014

NIT: 900867100-4

www.MingaHouse.org

What is MINGA?

“Minga entails a collaborative work system that dates back to the Incas. It refers to the commitment, contract or work agreement between two or more people. The word minga also stands for meeting or reunion.”

INTERNSHIP OPPORTUNITY

English as a Second Language – Teaching Assistant



Learning Objectives:

The participant of this internship opportunity will have direct university level in-class experience alongside an English professor at a university setting and have the option to lead class sessions. As an English teaching assistant for English as a second language, you will have the unique opportunity to develop new skills for communicating and directing classes to Colombian students within their own community culture.

Participants will experience:

- Learn new leadership skills in a foreign university setting.
- Learn to develop lessons and teaching styles to meet the needs of unique individuals and groups abroad.
- Learn to manage professional relationships between the students of a different culture.
- Gained experience and confidence in classroom management as a lead teacher.
- Spanish immersion with Language Professors!



Participant Requirements:

Educational Background:

Undergraduate & Professionals in any of the following fields: Near-graduation teacher education student, professional in any education field, TEFL/TESOL certified professionals (English)

Spanish Language Skills:

(None) 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 (Fluent)

Potential projects and day-to-day duties:

- Lead English conversation tables for students in the Professional and Communicative English Program.
- Create and manage a Conversation Club and bilingual workshops for faculty.
- Promote cultural and conversational activities.
- Design class plans, reading, and oral production projects.
- Assist teaching staff of the Language Center.

Service Term:

- **ISL Internship:** 3-5 months (1 quarter or 1 semester)
- **Work Schedule:** 30 hours per week (includes 10 hours prep time)

Service Window:

- February - August

Special Skills Desired:

- Desire to help university students learn English a second language
- Confident to lead classes and conversation groups
- Some teaching experience
- Proactive in the classroom
- Be positive, respectful and responsible
- Works well in teams



[Index](#)



Fundacion International Service Learning Colombia

Non-Profit Organization – Founded in 2014

NIT: 900867100-4

www.MingaHouse.org

What is MINGA?

“Minga entails a collaborative work system that dates back to the Incas. It refers to the commitment, contract or work agreement between two or more people. The word minga also stands for meeting or reunion.”

INTERNSHIP OPPORTUNITY

Research or Teaching Assistant for Environmental Engineering/Science

“Gloria Yaneth y el medio ambiente”

**soy conservación
soy UCM**



Learning Objectives:

The Environmental Engineering program of UCM (Universidad Catolica de Manizales) searches for engineering solutions for environmental problems that affect the quality of life of the human population. This is done by the development, technological intervention, control and prevention of the usage of renewable natural resources. Participants will gain:

Vida, tecnología y conservación

- Knowledge of the environment; how to identify the causes and consequences of environmental problems and where they come from.
- Knowledgeable of how to respond to challenges and necessities from society, improving the environmental conditions of a town, city or country.
- Knowledge on how to reduce and decrease the risks from negative impacts in the environment using environmentally sustainable, economically viable and culturally contextualized solutions that contribute to sustainable development.

**Participant Requirements:****Educational Background:**

Undergraduate or Professional studies in environmental engineering/science or related science fields.

Spanish Language Skills:

(None) 1 2 **3** 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 (Fluent)

Potential projects and day-to-day duties:

- Teaching Assistant - Support for environmental engineering subjects, presenting topics and introducing workshops in English
- Research Assistant - Investigation in the following projects:
 - Treatment and final disposal of sludge from wastewater treatment plants
 - Evaluation of ecosystem services
 - Integral management of water resources
 - Treatment of industrial, domestic and mining waste water
 - Waste recovery
 - Integral management of solid urban waste
 - Sustainable management and consumption.

Service Term:

- **ISL Internship:** 3-5 months (1 quarter or 1 semester)
- **Work Schedule:** 25 hours per week (may enroll in courses for UCM credit)

Service Window:

- February - June; July - November

Special Skills Desired:

- Basic competencies in environmental engineering/science
- Areas of knowledge of basic engineering sciences

[Index](#)

soy **conservación**
soy UCM



Fundacion International Service Learning Colombia

Non-Profit Organization – Founded in 2014

NIT: 900867100-4

www.MingaHouse.org

What is MINGA?

“Minga entails a collaborative work system that dates back to the Incas. It refers to the commitment, contract or work agreement between two or more people. The word minga also stands for meeting or reunion.”

INTERNSHIP OPPORTUNITY

BIOINFORMATICS and COMPUTATIONAL BIOLOGY Intern Analyst



Learning Objectives:

BIOS is the leading center for bioinformatics and computational biology in Colombia. BIOS specializes in providing services to the Colombian government, the academic community, and the private sector to continue the development of scientific investigation and biotechnology industries.

BIOS has the mission to provide computational tools in relation to the life sciences; Developing software, storing and processing data supply disseminated by its researchers, by members of other research groups, or by third parties; Advance academic and educational activities, advise and guide intensive research in the use of data and its interpretation.

Intern Learning Objectives:

- Learn & implement computer systems such as Linux, ZYFCON
- Learn other basic programming in bioinformatic languages
- Learn to develop solutions and innovative services by using scientific and technological innovative tools
- Participate in developing investigation projects that deal with:
 - ✓ Genomics
 - ✓ Metagenomics
 - ✓ Transcriptomics
 - ✓ Proteomics
 - ✓ Metabolomics



Participant Requirements:

Educational Background: Undergraduate, Graduate & Professionals in any of the following fields: Biology, Electrical Engineering, Computer Science or any other related studies.

Spanish Language Skills: (None) 1 2 **3** 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 (Fluent) - Most BIOS staff speaks English

Potential projects and day-to-day duties:

- Write code and uses analytic tools to solve specific scientific problems related to the mission of BIOS.
- Identify and evaluate open source packages appropriate to a scientific project.
- Read scientific publications relevant to the project and summarizes key points.
- Participate in projects for economic growth based on scientific innovation that allows the creation of new products.
- Assist with the extraction, sequencing and analysis of genomic information of important agricultural, industrial and ecological species.
- Assist in the duties of molecular expedition, bio-prospecting, improvement and conservation and technology transfer.
- Assist in data mining, bibliographic revisions and revision of specific topics that are assigned.

Service Term:

- **Internship:** 3-12 months
- **Work Schedule:** 6-8 hrs./day - Mon-Fri (TBD am - TBD pm)
- **Service Window:** January – December

Special Skills Desired:

- Works well in a team atmosphere
- Basic knowledge of computer applications
- Knowledge of molecular biology concepts and computational genomics
- Demonstrates knowledge of scientific principles, procedures and techniques
- Familiar with graph algorithms, spatio-temporal and other forms of data analytics, management of data systems.



CENTRO DE BIOINFORMÁTICA
Y BIOLOGÍA COMPUTACIONAL
Conocimiento e innovación para el desarrollo

[Index](#)



MINGAHOUSE

Fundacion International Service Learning Colombia

Non-Profit Organization – Founded in 2014

NIT: 900867100-4

www.MingaHouse.org

What is MINGA?

“Minga entails a collaborative work system that dates back to the Incas. It refers to the commitment, contract or work agreement between two or more people. The word minga also stands for meeting or reunion.”

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY

Global Market Development



Learning Objectives:

BioProteccion is one of the leading companies in Colombia that produce biological products for getting rid of or preventing insects on cattle or crops.

The desired participant would use his/her background to enhance and gain new marketing skills by working with a fast-growing Bio-tech company. The chosen candidate will work closely with the Director of Operations to help promote and grow this company. The participant will use marketing techniques to make the company's products available for international purchasing. Upon completion of the internship, the participant will:

- Have enhanced his/her regional sales, marketing and aftersales functions by participating in several cross-functional projects.
- Have better knowledge of developing strategies and implementation through report generation and analysis.
- Participate in all daily work related with the conservation of the nature reserve
- Demonstrate marketing growth through presentations, team projects and reports.
- Have experience in marketing techniques to bring a Colombian company to the global market



Participant Requirements:

Educational Background:

Undergraduate, graduate, & professionals in any of the following fields: Marketing, business administration, public relations, or communications

Spanish Language Skills:

(None) 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 (Fluent)

We would like an intermediate level of Spanish, although it is not necessary.

Potential projects and day-to-day duties:

- Work with staff to create plans and projects to promote products globally and specified markets
- Edit existing and develop new web marketing content
- Support in the review of current internal operations processes & procedures for improvement
- Assist in other duties that support the supervisor
- Work independently to come up with new innovative ideas to promote the mission and vision of the company
- Attend team meetings to brainstorm and discuss proposed marketing/innovation plans

Service Term:

- **Internship:** 3-12 months
- **Work Schedule:** TBD - according to the scope of project
- **Service Window:** January-December

Special Skills Desired:

- Currently studying or graduated with marketing/sales experience
- Experience with maintaining web content
- Excellent project management skills
- Works well with other team members
- Can adapt to a fast and changing environment



BioProteccion Introduction

video link: <https://youtu.be/xl5n8BTL46s>

Related Article:

Biological control using invertebrates and microorganisms: plenty of new opportunities

van Lenteren, J.C., Bolckmans, K., Köhl, J. et al. BioControl (2017). doi:10.1007/s10526-017-9801-4
<https://link.springer.com/article/10.1007%2Fs10526-017-9801-4>

Biological control using invertebrates and microorganisms: plenty of new opportunities

- Authors
- Authors and affiliations
- Joop C. van Lenteren
- Karel Bolckmans
- Jürgen Köhl
- Willem J. Ravensberg
- Alberto Urbaneja

Article

First Online:

18 March 2017

DOI: 10.1007/s10526-017-9801-4

Cite this article as:

van Lenteren, J.C., Bolckmans, K., Köhl, J. et al. BioControl (2017). doi:10.1007/s10526-017-9801-4

Abstract

In augmentative biological control (ABC), invertebrate and microbial organisms are seasonally released in large numbers to reduce pests. Today it is applied on more than 30 million ha worldwide. Europe is the largest commercial market for invertebrate biological control agents, while North America has the largest sales of microbials. A strong growth in use of ABC, particularly of microbial agents, is taking place in Latin America, followed by Asia. The current popularity of ABC is due to (1) its inherent positive characteristics (healthier for farm workers and persons living in farming communities, no harvesting interval or waiting period after release of agents, sustainable as there is no development of resistance against arthropod natural enemies, no phytotoxic damage to plants, better yields and a healthier product, reduced pesticide residues [well below the legal Maximum Residue Levels (MRLs)], (2) professionalism of the biological control industry (inexpensive large scale mass production, proper



MINGAHOUSE

quality control, efficient packaging, distribution and release methods, and availability of many (>440 species) control agents for numerous pests), (3) a number of recent successes showing how biological control can save agricultural production when pesticides fail or are not available, (4) several non-governmental organizations (NGOs), consumers, and retailers demanding pesticide residues far below the legal MRLs, and (5) policy developments in several regions of the world aimed at reduction and replacement of synthetic pesticides by more sustainable methods of pest management. We are convinced, however, that ABC can be applied on a much larger area than it is today. We plead in the short term for a pragmatic form of agriculture that is adaptable, non-dogmatic and combines the sustainability gain from all types of agriculture and pest management methods. We then propose to move to “conscious agriculture”, which involves participation of all stakeholders in the production and consumer chain, and respects the environment and resource availability for future generations. Were “conscious agriculture” to be considered a serious alternative to conventional farming, ABC would face an even brighter future.

Keywords

Augmentative biological control Pest control policies Benefits of biological control Market developments in biological control Worldwide use of biological control Integrated pest management Conscious agriculture

Handling Editor: Russell Messing.

Electronic supplementary material

The online version of this article (doi:[10.1007/s10526-017-9801-4](https://doi.org/10.1007/s10526-017-9801-4)) contains supplementary material, which is available to authorized users.

Introduction

Politicians, policy makers, retailers, consumers, growers and grower organizations are increasingly asking for and speaking about biological control. Hardly a day passes during which we, the authors of this paper, do not receive a question on how to control a certain pest, disease or weed, where to obtain biological control agents, and how to stimulate use of this environmentally safe pest management method. The European Union (EU) has been advocating the use of biological control since 2009 in its Sustainable Use of Pesticides Directive (EC [2009](#)). The President of China recently launched a “National research program on reduction in chemical pesticides and fertilizers in China” involving more than 340 million US\$, indicating a need for the development and application of non-chemical control methods. Together, the authors of this paper have been working in the field of



MINGAHOUSE

augmentative biological control (ABC) for more than 150 years. We noted a hesitant start to ABC in the 1970s, then a burst of activity took place over the next 25 years. During the first decade of the twenty-first century fewer new biological control agents came to the market, but during the second decade we again experienced a new phase with strong growth in both the development of new agents and a market for biological control (van Lenteren [2012](#); Tables [1](#), [2](#) and [3](#) in this paper).

[Index](#)



Fundacion International Service Learning Colombia

Non-Profit Organization – Founded in 2014

NIT: 900867100-4

www.MingaHouse.org

What is MINGA?

“Minga entails a collaborative work system that dates back to the Incas. It refers to the commitment, contract or work agreement between two or more people. The word minga also stands for meeting or reunion.”

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY

Biological control using invertebrates and microorganisms



Learning Objectives:

BioProteccion is a one of the leading companies in Colombia that produce biological products for getting rid of or preventing insects on cattle or crops.

The desired participant would use his/her background in chemistry, biology, business or agriculture in developing a stronger understanding of the production, use and distribution of these biological products. The participant will also gain better knowledge in the business aspect of this process, and learn how innovation is a pivotal part of growing and sustaining a biological company. Upon completion of the internship, the participant will have more knowledge in:

- The life cycle of a biological product (how they are created, used and exposed of)
- Statistical evaluations of the products using investigation standards
- How biological products can be utilized in place of chemical products
- How these products can change the quality and safety of the food we consume
- The further development of existing biological products
- Creating a mixture of biological and chemical products to have a better outcome



Participant Requirements:

Educational Background:

Undergraduate, graduate, or professionals in any of the following fields: Agriculture, biology, veterinary medicine, or zootechnics with interest in knowing new alternatives of pesticide control of insects that affect the production of human consumed goods and livestock.

Spanish Language Skills:

(None) 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 (Fluent)

A medium level of Spanish is desired, but not required.

Potential projects and day-to-day duties:

- Assist team in the production of the biological products
- Assist supervisor in any administrative tasks
- Support in the daily tasks and other duties assigned by supervisor
- Collect and compile information necessary for validating the products
- Assist in the validation of the biological products using investigation standards
- Research and test other potential products that could be used for livestock or crops
- Use statistical methods to show what products are more effective than others

Service Term:

- o **Internship:** 3-12 months
- o **Work Schedule:** 6-8 hrs./day - Monday-Friday (TBD am - TBD pm)
- o **Service Window:** January - December

Special Skills Desired:

- Ability and willingness to help in all aspects of the mission
- Experience in research of different biological products
- Competent in the use basic computer applications
- Experience in chemistry/biology laboratories



MINGAHOUSE

- Knowledge of statistical evaluation
- Knowledge of biological sciences
- Great attitude
- Proactive
- Self-directed
- Strong work ethics



BioProteccion Introduction

video link: <https://youtu.be/xl5n8BTL46s>

Related Article:

Biological control using invertebrates and microorganisms: plenty of new opportunities

van Lenteren, J.C., Bolckmans, K., Köhl, J. et al. BioControl (2017). doi:10.1007/s10526-017-9801-4
<https://link.springer.com/article/10.1007%2Fs10526-017-9801-4>

Biological control using invertebrates and microorganisms: plenty of new opportunities

- Authors
- Authors and affiliations
- Joop C. van Lenteren
- Karel Bolckmans
- Jürgen Köhl
- Willem J. Ravensberg
- Alberto Urbaneja

Article

First Online:

18 March 2017

DOI: 10.1007/s10526-017-9801-4

Cite this article as:

van Lenteren, J.C., Bolckmans, K., Köhl, J. et al. BioControl (2017). doi:10.1007/s10526-017-9801-4

Abstract

In augmentative biological control (ABC), invertebrate and microbial organisms are seasonally released in large numbers to reduce pests. Today it is applied on more than 30 million ha worldwide. Europe is



MINGAHOUSE

the largest commercial market for invertebrate biological control agents, while North America has the largest sales of microbials. A strong growth in use of ABC, particularly of microbial agents, is taking place in Latin America, followed by Asia. The current popularity of ABC is due to (1) its inherent positive characteristics (healthier for farm workers and persons living in farming communities, no harvesting interval or waiting period after release of agents, sustainable as there is no development of resistance against arthropod natural enemies, no phytotoxic damage to plants, better yields and a healthier product, reduced pesticide residues [well below the legal Maximum Residue Levels (MRLs)], (2) professionalism of the biological control industry (inexpensive large scale mass production, proper quality control, efficient packaging, distribution and release methods, and availability of many (>440 species) control agents for numerous pests), (3) a number of recent successes showing how biological control can save agricultural production when pesticides fail or are not available, (4) several non-governmental organizations (NGOs), consumers, and retailers demanding pesticide residues far below the legal MRLs, and (5) policy developments in several regions of the world aimed at reduction and replacement of synthetic pesticides by more sustainable methods of pest management. We are convinced, however, that ABC can be applied on a much larger area than it is today. We plead in the short term for a pragmatic form of agriculture that is adaptable, non-dogmatic and combines the sustainability gain from all types of agriculture and pest management methods. We then propose to move to “conscious agriculture”, which involves participation of all stakeholders in the production and consumer chain, and respects the environment and resource availability for future generations. Were “conscious agriculture” to be considered a serious alternative to conventional farming, ABC would face an even brighter future.

Keywords

Augmentative biological control Pest control policies Benefits of biological control Market developments in biological control Worldwide use of biological control Integrated pest management Conscious agriculture

Handling Editor: Russell Messing.

Electronic supplementary material

The online version of this article (doi:[10.1007/s10526-017-9801-4](https://doi.org/10.1007/s10526-017-9801-4)) contains supplementary material, which is available to authorized users.

Introduction

Politicians, policy makers, retailers, consumers, growers and grower organizations are increasingly



MINGAHOUSE

asking for and speaking about biological control. Hardly a day passes during which we, the authors of this paper, do not receive a question on how to control a certain pest, disease or weed, where to obtain biological control agents, and how to stimulate use of this environmentally safe pest management method. The European Union (EU) has been advocating the use of biological control since 2009 in its Sustainable Use of Pesticides Directive (EC [2009](#)). The President of China recently launched a “National research program on reduction in chemical pesticides and fertilizers in China” involving more than 340 million US\$, indicating a need for the development and application of non-chemical control methods. Together, the authors of this paper have been working in the field of augmentative biological control (ABC) for more than 150 years. We noted a hesitant start to ABC in the 1970s, then a burst of activity took place over the next 25 years. During the first decade of the twenty-first century fewer new biological control agents came to the market, but during the second decade we again experienced a new phase with strong growth in both the development of new agents and a market for biological control (van Lenteren [2012](#); Tables [1](#), [2](#) and [3](#) in this paper).

[Index](#)



Fundacion International Service Learning Colombia

Non-Profit Organization – Founded in 2014

NIT: 900867100-4

www.MingaHouse.org

What is MINGA?

“Minga entails a collaborative work system that dates back to the Incas. It refers to the commitment, contract or work agreement between two or more people. The word minga also stands for meeting or reunion.”

VOLUNTEER & INTERNSHIP OPPORTUNITY

Coffee Permaculture



Learning Objectives:

BioProteccion is one of the leading companies in Colombia that produce biological products for getting rid of or preventing insects on cattle or crops. Managing pests with natural methods is BioProteccion's vital contribution to Colombia's growing permaculture movement in efforts to not only produce healthier organic coffee products for the consumer but also to help in providing a healthier and safer work environment for the coffee farm worker.

Permaculture is a global grassroots movement that builds healthy environments, regenerates the land and empowers communities. It is a sustainable design approach that mimics patterns in nature to create regenerative edible ecosystems. It applies natural design principles to create resilient systems – providing food, water, shelter, and energy needs while building ecology, community, and economy.

Permaculture is an interdisciplinary framework which uses both modern and traditional technologies and focuses on the synergistic relationships between different approaches to find creative solutions through collaboration rather than competition. In contrast to monoculture farming, permaculturists cultivate perennial-focused multi-layered polycultures of crops that provide ecological services to each other to create biodiverse, climate-resilient and marketable food forests.

During In this rotation you will learn by doing; have experience how Colombian farmers work on the farms by participating in the daily chores such as caring for the crops, animals, and grounds. In doing so, you can learn a variety of techniques employed including organic farming, Permaculture, and Biodynamics. In addition to learning about organic farming, you can also learn about the local ecology and culture while getting to meet fun and interesting people. Principle regional crops include Coffee, Cacao, Bananas, Avocado, and citrus. But you will be exposed to many other unique Colombian fruits and vegetables. Colombia is home to 10% of the world's biodiversity.



Participant Requirements:

Educational Background:

Undergraduate, graduate, or professionals in any of the following fields: Agriculture, Eco-Tourism, Agronomy.

Spanish Language Skills:

(None) 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 (Fluent) A medium level of Spanish is desired, but not required.

Potential projects and day-to-day duties:

- Work and assist farmers as directed
- Tasked to compare/contrast Colombian practices vs. U.S. practices then make presentation
- Support in the review of current internal operations processes & procedures for improvement
- Support in the daily tasks and other duties assigned by supervisor
- Play the role of a 'day in the life' of a Colombian farm worker

Service Term:

- **Volunteering & Internship:** Open; may be determined upon initial interview to meet mutual goals; If participant is volunteering for at least 1 week, this option may be combined with other volunteering opportunities
- **Terms:** 1 week to 12 months
- **Work Schedule:** 6-8 hrs./day - Monday-Friday (TBD am - TBD pm)
- **Service Window:** January - December

Special Skills Desired:

- Interest in eco-sustainable farms and agriculture
- Strong communication skills
- Responsible & Mature
- Safety Conscious
- Great attitude
- Proactive





BioProteccion Introduction

video link: <https://youtu.be/xl5n8BTL46s>

Related Article:

Biological control using invertebrates and microorganisms: plenty of new opportunities

van Lenteren, J.C., Bolckmans, K., Köhl, J. et al. BioControl (2017). doi:10.1007/s10526-017-9801-4
<https://link.springer.com/article/10.1007%2Fs10526-017-9801-4>

Biological control using invertebrates and microorganisms: plenty of new opportunities

- [Authors](#)
- [Authors and affiliations](#)
- Joop C. van Lenteren
- Karel Bolckmans
- Jürgen Köhl
- Willem J. Ravensberg
- Alberto Urbaneja

Article

First Online:

[18 March 2017](#)

DOI: 10.1007/s10526-017-9801-4

Cite this article as:

van Lenteren, J.C., Bolckmans, K., Köhl, J. et al. BioControl (2017). doi:10.1007/s10526-017-9801-4

Abstract

In augmentative biological control (ABC), invertebrate and microbial organisms are seasonally released in large numbers to reduce pests. Today it is applied on more than 30 million ha worldwide. Europe is the largest commercial market for invertebrate biological control agents, while North America has the largest sales of microbials. A strong growth in the use of ABC, particularly of microbial agents, is taking place in Latin America, followed by Asia. The current popularity of ABC is due to (1) its inherent positive characteristics (healthier for farm workers and persons living in farming communities, no harvesting interval or waiting period after release of agents, sustainable as there is no development of resistance against arthropod natural enemies, no phytotoxic damage to plants, better yields and a healthier product, reduced pesticide residues [well below the legal Maximum Residue Levels (MRLs)], (2) professionalism of the biological control industry (inexpensive large-scale mass production, proper



MINGAHOUSE

quality control, efficient packaging, distribution and release methods, and availability of many (>440 species) control agents for numerous pests), (3) a number of recent successes showing how biological control can save agricultural production when pesticides fail or are not available, (4) several non-governmental organizations (NGOs), consumers, and retailers demanding pesticide residues far below the legal MRLs, and (5) policy developments in several regions of the world aimed at reduction and replacement of synthetic pesticides by more sustainable methods of pest management. We are convinced, however, that ABC can be applied on a much larger area than it is today. We plead in the short term for a pragmatic form of agriculture that is adaptable, non-dogmatic and combines the sustainability gain from all types of agriculture and pest management methods. We then propose to move to “conscious agriculture”, which involves the participation of all stakeholders in the production and consumer chain and respects the environment and resource availability for future generations. Were “conscious agriculture” to be considered a serious alternative to conventional farming, ABC would face an even brighter future.

Keywords

Augmentative biological control Pest control policies Benefits of biological control Market developments in biological control Worldwide use of biological control Integrated pest management Conscious agriculture

Handling Editor: Russell Messing.

Electronic supplementary material

The online version of this article (doi:[10.1007/s10526-017-9801-4](https://doi.org/10.1007/s10526-017-9801-4)) contains supplementary material, which is available to authorized users.

Introduction

Politicians, policy makers, retailers, consumers, growers, and grower organizations are increasingly asking for and speaking about biological control. Hardly a day passes during which we, the authors of this paper, do not receive a question on how to control a certain pest, disease or weed, where to obtain biological control agents, and how to stimulate the use of this environmentally safe pest management method. The European Union (EU) has been advocating the use of biological control since 2009 in its Sustainable Use of Pesticides Directive (EC [2009](#)). The President of China recently launched a “National research program on reduction in chemical pesticides and fertilizers in China” involving more than 340 million US\$, indicating a need for the development and application of non-chemical control methods. Together, the authors of this paper have been working in the field of



MINGAHOUSE

augmentative biological control (ABC) for more than 150 years. We noted a hesitant start to ABC in the 1970s, then a burst of activity took place over the next 25 years. During the first decade of the twenty-first century fewer new biological control agents came to the market, but during the second decade we again experienced a new phase with strong growth in both the development of new agents and a market for biological control (van Lenteren [2012](#); Tables [1](#), [2](#) and [3](#) in this paper).

[Index](#)



MINGAHOUSE

Fundacion International Service Learning Colombia

Non-Profit Organization – Founded in 2014

NIT: 900867100-4

www.MingaHouse.org

What is MINGA?

“Minga entails a collaborative work system that dates back to the Incas. It refers to the commitment, contract or work agreement between two or more people. The word minga also stands for meeting or reunion.”

INTERNSHIP OPPORTUNITY

PUBLIC RELATIONS – Intern



emas

Siente tu ciudad, vívela limpia

Learning Objectives:

EMAS is a leading Colombian waste management organization that is heavily committed to helping develop a culture of environmental consciousness within the communities they service. They see themselves as a pivotal educational institution with the social responsibility to maintain their cities safe & clean from waste. They invest heavily in educational campaigns to affect long-term societal attitudes towards promoting sustainable management of natural resources by decreasing waste and increasing recycling habits by the community.

As an intern, you will gain valuable experience on how a waste management company manages its public relations and communication services. The intern will participate in creating promotional material to engage with the community residents, partnering organizations, and community leaders.

Internship Learning Objectives:

- Strengthen public relations and communication skills by creating and divulging important information
- Learn to promote a company's mission and vision through PR/communication work
- Learn to develop relationships with outside organizations
- Develop & plan community events
- Manage web content, design newsletters and create social media tactics



Participant Requirements:

Educational Background: Undergraduate, Graduate & Professionals in any of the following fields: Public relations, communications, marketing, sociology, environmental studies, education, business, or any other related fields of study.

Spanish Language Skills: (None) 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 (Fluent)

Potential projects and day-to-day duties:

- Accompany staff to company activities
- Take pictures for documenting current/future incentives
- Creation of useful information for giving to inhabitants
- Design communication practices and social management events
- Public relations with partner organizations
- Assist in environmental conservation campaigns
- Door-to-door visits

Service Term:

- **Internship:** 1-12 months
- **Work Schedule:** 6-8 hrs./day - Mon-Fri (TBD am - TBD pm)
- **Service Window:** January – December

Special Skills Desired:

- Excellent written and oral communication
- Knowledge of photography
- Knowledge of graphic design programs
- Creativity
- Observance
- Self-management



[Index](#)





Fundacion International Service Learning Colombia

Non-Profit Organization – Founded in 2014

NIT: 900867100-4

www.MingaHouse.org

What is MINGA?

“Minga entails a collaborative work system that dates back to the Incas. It refers to the commitment, contract or work agreement between two or more people. The word minga also stands for meeting or reunion.”

INTERNSHIP OPPORTUNITY

RECYCLING STRATEGIES – Intern



emas

Siente tu ciudad, vívela limpia

Learning Objectives:

EMAS is a leading Colombian waste management organization that is heavily committed to helping develop a culture of environmental consciousness within the communities they service. They see themselves as a pivotal educational institution with the social responsibility to maintain their cities safe & clean from waste. They invest heavily in educational campaigns in order to affect long-term societal attitudes towards promoting sustainable management of natural resources by decreasing waste and increasing recycling habits by the community. The participant will have the opportunity to help manage and/or improve processes for collecting, sorting and disposing of all types of waste and recycle materials. Also, interns will participate in community outreach

campaigns to analyze social behavior in order to determine what waste management methods must be used. Chosen candidates will also learn how the cleanliness and the chosen processes for maintaining the city affect the environment that we live in. The intern's principle task will be to assist in designing and implementing new recycling strategies and learn the environmental reasons for needing to create them.

Internship Learning Objectives:

- Understand how truly beneficial recycling is for the environment and for citizens in cities.
- Be competent in creating recycling strategies to be able to reduce the exploitation of resources.
- Have better knowledge in the different types of waste and how each one must be recycled in its own way.
- Be competent in the process of recycling and how society can monetarily benefit from recycling.
- Learn how to develop incentives for companies to design products that use less resources, contain less toxic substances and easier to be recycled.



Participant Requirements:

Educational Background: Undergraduate, Graduate & Professionals in any of the following fields: Sociology, anthropology, environmental studies, product design, social work, education, social design, or any other related fields of study.

Spanish Language Skills: (None) 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 (Fluent)

Potential projects and day-to-day duties:

- Analyze current recycling practices
- Investigate recycling practices in other comparable cities worldwide
- Design communication practices and social management events
- Accompany staff with community activities
- Door-to-door visits
- Design operational and logistical strategies
- Design recycling elements

Service Term:

- **Internship:** 1-12 months
- **Work Schedule:** 6-8 hrs./day - Mon-Fri (TBD am - TBD pm)
- **Service Window:** January – December

Special Skills Desired:

- Knowledge in recycling practices
- Self-management
- Assertive communication
- Social development
- History of community participation
- Empathy for others
- Teamwork



[Index](#)



MINGAHOUSE

Fundacion International Service Learning Colombia

Non-Profit Organization – Founded in 2014

NIT: 900867100-4

www.MingaHouse.org

What is MINGA?

“Minga entails a collaborative work system that dates back to the Incas. It refers to the commitment, contract or work agreement between two or more people. The word minga also stands for meeting or reunion.”

INTERNSHIP OPPORTUNITY

WASTE MANAGEMENT – Environmental Science Intern



emas

Siente tu ciudad, vívela limpia

Learning Objectives:

EMAS is a leading Colombian waste management organization that is heavily committed to helping develop a culture of environmental consciousness within the communities they service. They see themselves as a pivotal educational institution with the social responsibility to maintain their cities safe & clean from waste. They invest heavily in educational campaigns in order to affect long-term societal attitudes towards promoting sustainable management of natural resources by decreasing waste and increasing recycling habits by the community. The participant will have the opportunity to help manage and/or improve processes for collecting, sorting and disposing of all types of waste and

recycle materials. Also, interns will participate in community outreach campaigns to analyze social behavior in order to determine what waste management methods must be used. Chosen candidates will also learn how the cleanliness and the chosen processes for maintaining the city affect the environment that we live in.

Intern Learning Objectives:

- Gain an understanding of how a waste management system works to maintain the environment.
- Understand how social behavior relates to the types of methods that need to be used to maintain good management of the environment.
- Be more competent in the planning and integration of new waste management policies.
- Be able to create analytical and statistical quality reports.
- Understand the processes of collection, transport, treatment and disposal of waste with monitoring and regulations.



Participant Requirements:

Educational Background: Undergraduate, Graduate & Professionals in any of the following fields: Sociology, anthropology, environmental studies, social work or any other related fields of study.

Spanish Language Skills: (None) 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 (Fluent)

Potential projects and day-to-day duties:

- Perform analyses of socio-environmental behaviors and practices in terms of waste management
- Assist in the creation of plans to help change socio-environmental behaviors
- Create diagnostic reports and recommendations for new management techniques
- Work with team members to create plans of presented recommendations
- Accompany staff in social management activities
- Assist in any administrative duties

Service Term:

- **Internship:** 1-12 months
- **Work Schedule:** 6-8 hrs./day - Mon-Fri (TBD am - TBD pm)
- **Service Window:** January – December

Special Skills Desired:

- | | |
|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Community interest ● Empathy ● Order ● Perseverance | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Self-management ● Assertive communication ● Social development |
|--|--|



[Index](#)



MINGAHOUSE

Fundacion International Service Learning Colombia

Non-Profit Organization – Founded in 2014

NIT: 900867100-4

www.MingaHouse.org

What is MINGA?

“Minga entails a collaborative work system that dates back to the Incas. It refers to the commitment, contract or work agreement between two or more people. The word minga also stands for meeting or reunion.”

[Welcome Minga House Volunteer!](#)

Thank you for volunteering with Minga House and its partner organizations! You will love visiting beautiful Colombia's Eje Cafetero (Andean Coffee Region). You will learn while serving and have a great deal of fun doing it. Hopefully, the following travel tips will make your experience even more rewarding. Be sure you read the **Getting Ready to Go Guide** and the **Orientation Guide**.

First, be sure to book your airline tickets for the PEREIRA AIRPORT before 7pm to avoid a \$40 USD taxi ride from Pereira to Chinchina or a hotel overnight stay. There is no public transportation from Pereira to Chinchina at night, so arrive during daylight hours. Upon arrival to the Pereira airport go through immigration and then customs; when doing so, go through the "Nothing to declare line." Do not represent yourself to be a healthcare professional or student arriving for study (this requires a special visa for a longer period of time). If you asked our staff to pick you up at the airport, we will be waiting for you at the gate. If you did not ask us to pick you up, we can guide you to Chinchina using WhatsApp. You will first need to take a taxi to the bus terminal and then a public bus from Pereira to Chinchina. Upon arriving to Chinchina, simply go to Bolivar Park downtown and Minga House is right there! It's easy. If traveling via Bogota, do your **money exchange** there as the exchange service at the smaller Pereira airport is not always operating. \$200 USD will be sufficient to cover your meals for a 14-day stay. We strongly advise you to ensure your ATM card works by informing your bank of your travels to Colombia prior to your trip. You never know when you may need emergency cash. You will need to have Minga House's address handy during your trip as customs will ask you where you are staying (see footnotes).

You are officially a tourist if your stay is less than 45 days and do not have to pay an extended stay tax. If you do stay longer than 90 days you will be charged approximately a \$50 USD fee upon exiting the country. If you decide to stay longer than 180 days you will need to ask for an extension to your tourist VISA. We can help you with that process.

Pack important gear in your “carry-on bag!” (Always plan for the worst; in case your luggage is delayed or lost): Light rain gear, hat/cap, sunglasses, insect repellent, and sunscreen, two sets of scrubs, one change of clothes, swim suit, hand sanitizer, stethoscope, blood pressure cuff, a rugged water bottle, and your favorite snack bars. Download your useful phone apps (WhatsApp, English-Spanish translation, Medical Prescription, Diagnosis, etc.). Note: We do have laundry service available.



If you would like to bring any **donations**, especially if you're participating in health-related either volunteer or internship roles, the following are the items that are actually needed, and in the order of preference: DO NOT bring any other items, especially medications, as we are restricted by their Health Department on what meds we can gift. Also, consider 'weight' as a factor in choosing your donations. 'Lighter' items are better than 'fewer heavier ones.'

- Multivitamins for children, pre-natal, and adults
- Dental care supplies: Toothbrushes, toothpaste, dental floss
- Thermometers (centigrade degrees) to give away to families (inexpensive giveaways)
- Pregnancy test kits (dollar store)
- Supplies: Hand sanitizer, antibacterial soap, pill separators, and plastic name tag covers.
- First-Aid kits: Antibiotic cream, bandages, ice packs, gauze, adhesive tape, band aids
- Stickers (sheets of small size; able to share & split apart among all the children)
- School supplies (crayons, pencils, coloring books)
- Small toys, frisbees, deflated soccer balls (we have air pumps here!)
- Baby & Children's clothes; Used items: Perfectly fine! (only in good condition, please)
- Hard-to-find food items: Chunky peanut butter, jalapenos, honey-mustard, & your favorites!
- Diagnostic Medical Gear: Temple Touch Thermometers, Otoscopes, Finger Pulse Oximeters, Glucometers & strips, Stethoscopes, Pressure Cuffs, and Batteries (AA, AAA, CR-2032).

Keep in mind that this is an adventure and as such, itineraries may change due to unforeseen circumstances or newly found opportunities. What is most important is that you bring your best attitude and lots of curiosity and empathy. Provide a copy of this letter to someone who you want to know how to reach us. To ensure solid communication is established prior to your travels, please ADD me and BOTH our staff members in your **WhatsApp contacts**: The sooner, the better... **You can have our staff meet you at the airport, which I recommend. It only costs \$20 more and taxi & bus transportation is covered.**

Glen 57-323-505-5710

Stiven 57-310-452-3454

Jaidiber 313-581-4340

See you soon!

Glen G. Galindo, M.Ed.

Presidente

Skype: glen_galindo

Glen@MingaHouse.org

[Index](#)