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
Social-Environmental Engineering - Project Assistant

Learning Objectives:
Project-based experience surrounding real local community projects by Universidad Catolica de Manizales (UCM) in areas such as access to potable water, treatment of residual water, risk assessment of climate change, cleaner production systems in farms, integral management of solid waste, conservation plans of ecosystems and areas of protection of environmental importance.

Participants will experience:
- Learn how scientific evidence is used to inform decision-making and policy in regards to environmental problems.
- Learn how to effectively develop and carry out intervention plans for vulnerable populations.

Vida, tecnología y conservación
- Develop professional skills, by meeting people working on environmental issues, and to deepen the understanding of socially relevant environmental problems.
- Enhance understanding of the complex nature of socially relevant environmental problems and the research approaches used to address them.
Participant Requirements:

Educational Background:

Undergraduate & Professionals in any of the following fields: Environmental engineering, environmental science, social sciences, social work, public health, education, or anything related

Spanish Language Skills:

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

Potential projects and day-to-day duties:

● Diagnose & prioritize the socio-environmental needs of the rural communities in the Manizales region.
● Formulate socio-environmental intervention plans and programs for at least one community.
● Communicate with other public and private entities about the program for intervening the community.
● Launch formulated plans and programs.
● Design and execute environmental education workshops for kids, teenagers and adults in the communities.

Service Term:

○ Plan Prep Time: 60 days min required before arrival date
○ Service Term: 60 days min required – 32 hrs/wk required
○ Work Schedule: 25 hours per week (may be supplemented by course enrollment for UCM credit)
○ Service Window: February - June; July – November (flexibility possible)

Special Skills Desired:

● Basic understanding of Environmental Engineering/Science
● Able to effectively plan and execute interventional plans
● Solid oral/written communication skills
● Able to manage multiple projects at once