



AIDG

Appropriate Infrastructure Development Group



**:: P.O. Box 104 Weston MA, 02493 USA ::
:: www.aidg.org :: info@aidg.org :: Phone 800-401-3860 :: Fax 886-450-8016 ::**

AIDG Internship Description

AIDG Overview:

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Roughly two billion people do not have access to basic services such as electricity, clean drinking water and sanitation. Development of this infrastructure is essential to breaking the cycle of poverty in developing countries. The Appropriate Infrastructure Development Group (AIDG) seeks to provide the rural poor in developing countries with affordable and environmentally sound technologies that meet these needs. Through a combination of business incubation, education, training, and outreach, the AIDG helps individuals and communities gain access to technology that will improve their lives. Our model provides a novel approach to sustainable development by empowering people with the physical tools and practical knowledge to solve infrastructure problems in their own communities.

The AIDG is seeking interns to facilitate the growth of the organization and its incubated businesses. Currently, support is needed in its workshop in Quetzaltenango, Guatemala. In the near future, AIDG seeks to incubate other businesses in The Dominican Republic, Haiti and beyond. Presently, the needs of AIDG include hands-on design/build and written assistance. Below are some details about the internship opportunities. On our website are testimonials from former interns to give you a better sense of what an internship with AIDG would be like. AIDG began offering internships in the summer of 2006 with over a dozen interns. Interns are needed year-round. There is unfortunately not sufficient funding at this time (although a grant is pending) to cover any personal costs for interns such as flights, housing, or food. However the use of all shop materials and Internet access is available. Occasionally interns have received school credit or funding for airfare from their respective schools or other organizations. Interns may also wish to coordinate a personal fundraiser for their AIDG internship.

Intern Responsibilities

AIDG seeks interns to assist our incubated business in the design, fabrication, installation, and/or marketing of appropriate technology products. Such projects include windmills, solar PV/thermal systems, recycled goods, composting toilets, hydroelectricity, water filters, rain capture, bicycle-powered devices, etc. AIDG also seeks interns who can help with the design of marketing materials, generation of educational materials, grant writing, and an accounting and business strategy. AIDG's service-learning program, TecoTours, is also in need of interns to support its programs specifically through developing marketing strategy and materials.

Intern Requirements

AIDG seeks interns who are versatile, mature, flexible, motivated, and friendly. Preferred are people that are simultaneously highly independent and excellent collaborators. A minimum two-month commitment at 25 hours a week is a must. Intern projects are identified and planned well in advance of project work, with specific deliverables due upon completion of

the internship. Interns must agree to follow the reasonable "XelaTeco House Guidelines," available at www.aidg.org/documents/XelaTecoHouseGuidelines.pdf.

Preferred Qualifications

Prior international experience. Extensive experience in any of the above projects AIDG is working on. Spanish Fluency. Use of Linux and extensive computer skills. Sense of humor. High level of energy and enthusiasm for the use of appropriate technologies through micro-enterprise.

Application Procedure

Please send a cover letter and resume, to Benny Lee at blee@aidg.org and internships@aidg.org. Please note that there are a limited number of internships available, and they are particularly competitive in the summer. However do try to accommodate as many qualified people as possible.

Available on the AIDG website are testimonials written by former interns, and a document detailing intern expectations and life in Guatemala available at: www.aidg.org/documents/InternshipPreparation.pdf. Please fully review the AIDG website before sending emails with questions. Thank you for your interest!