INTERNATIONAL INTERNSHIPS

2017
ABOUT FUNDACIÓN PARAGUAYA

Fundación Paraguaya is a self-sufficient, not-for-profit organization, which since its foundation in 1985 has spearheaded microfinance, entrepreneurship, and poverty elimination programs in Paraguay. Our social innovations such as the Self-Sustainable Agricultural School, Entrepreneurial Education Program, and Poverty Elimination Stoplight have won international awards and recognition.

We have 28 offices in Paraguay, an office in Tanzania (Africa), and a sister organization in London called Teach a Man to Fish. We have more than 400 employees, of which 60% are women. We are the representative in Paraguay of several organizations, including Junior Achievement.

Through our integrated strategy, we develop and implement practical, innovative, and sustainable solutions to eliminate poverty and create decent living conditions for all families. The components of our strategy are outlined next.
POVERTY ELIMINATION STOPLIGHT

Fundación Paraguaya has developed a practical methodology, which allows poor families to self-diagnose their own poverty as a first step in developing personalized strategies to let themselves out of poverty permanently. We call it the “Poverty Stoplight” approach to eliminate multidimensional poverty.

This methodology makes poverty “visible” by dividing the concept into 6 dimensions and 50 indicators, so that poor persons can visualize the ways in which poverty affects their family. As the name suggests, our tool uses stoplight colors: Red (for Extremely Poor), Yellow (for Poor), Green (for Not Poor), as well as photographs, maps, tablets, and a visual survey to create innovative maps that enable the poor to see and understand the ways in which they are poor.

Working with Hewlett Packard (HP), we have developed a 20-minute visual survey, which simplifies gathering data on poor families while encouraging them to focus on the gaps they need to close.

This methodology also allows the private sector, NGOs, and government to support the efforts of the families to escape poverty permanently, in an efficient and concrete way. It also allows microfinance institutions fulfill the original promise: empower the poor so they can overcome the situation they are in.
MICROFINANCE

The goal of our Microfinance Program is to lift the families of our more than 82,000 clients of rural and urban areas out of poverty. 87% of them are women.

We compete in the microfinance industry, however, unlike other microfinance entities, which only offer “financial inclusion”, our mission is that our clients overcome their poverty and hence, we support this journey with tools such as Poverty Elimination Stoplight. We are not seeking to alleviate, reduce, or combat poverty; we plan to eliminate it! This makes us different.

We measure our impact by the number of families who overcome poverty every year. For example, in the last 3 years, we have enabled 16,000 families to overcome poverty with respect to their level of income, but what we really want is to microfinance institutions all over the world to adopt the Poverty Stoplight Methodology.

Only in Latin America there are more than 11 million clients of microfinance institutions! Therefore, we are working to create awareness and understanding of this methodology so the microfinance institutions can adopt it and empower millions of families to overcome poverty all over the world.

ENTREPRENEURIAL EDUCATION

Entrepreneurial Education is a Fundación Paraguaya program that seeks to instill the spirit of entrepreneurship and creativity, as well as develop leadership qualities in children and youth. Since its outset, more than 230,000 children and youth have participated in its diverse programs. Each year thousands of boys, girls, and youth get involved in various activities and in the process awaken their spirit of entrepreneurship and develop business skills.

The programs we use in the area of Entrepreneurial Education are developed by Junior Achievement Worldwide. Fundación Paraguaya has been the representative of Junior Achievement Worldwide in Paraguay since 1995, teaching children and youth of low-income government schools entrepreneurial and financial education.
SELF-SUSTAINABLE SCHOOLS

The Self-sustainable Schools Program is an educational model that undertakes a different path in the struggle to eliminate poverty. We work with poor rural communities to transform their youth into rural entrepreneurs.

In addition to top quality education, self-sufficient productive business units, which cover 100% of the School’s operating costs, are incorporated. This model uses the “Learn by Doing, Selling, and Earning” methodology, in other words, it has a curriculum based on theory classes complemented by hands on field practice.

With this innovative approach we seek to make a difference and above all, ensure that more youth at risk acquire the skills and knowledge necessary to begin their own rural enterprises, access a decent job in the agriculture/livestock sector, or continue studying. Moreover, this school model can be replicated anywhere in the world because it is like a social franchise that is based on entrepreneurship.

Since 2005, Fundación Paraguaya has worked proactively in spreading the Self-Sustainable School Model all over the world looking for other institutions to adopt and replicate it. To this end, we have created the Teach A Man To Fish network and organized conferences to exchange information and best practices. For the same purpose, in 2012, we became a registered NGO in Tanzania and have since supported five independent schools in the regions of Morogoro, Iringa, and Njombe.
ABOUT PARAGUAY

Paraguay is located in the heart of South America; it’s a Mediterranean country without a direct access to the ocean. Currently it has a population of 6.3 million people, mostly young and mainly distributed in the eastern region. Our climate is tropical to subtropical, with an average temperature from 25 ° to 35 ° during summer and from 10 ° to 20 ° during winter. We have two official languages, Spanish and Guarani. The latter is the first indigenous language that has achieved the official language status in America.

The existence of indigenous populations, with the prevalence of the Guarani language together with the presence of immigrants from various countries worldwide, creates an extraordinary richness of cultural manifestations. This is reflected, for example, in crafts and gastronomy. Paraguay has been ranked continuously as the happiest country in the world by the consulting company Gallup. We encourage you to come and find out why!

You can find more information about our country, as well as a guide for visitors behind the following link: http://www.senatur.gov.py/ (Secretaría Nacional de Turismo Presidencia de la República). We also recommend you to check out the pages Bienvenidosaparaguay.com and Ylux.com.
REQUIREMENTS
There are certain requirements for accessing our internships, these are:

**Length of Internship:** We recommend carrying out projects that have duration of at least one month, however, the longer the internship, the greater the experience and learning process.

**Background:** Though no academic degree is required, applicants must have some basic knowledge on the topic of the internship assigned.

**Language:** We recommend having a basic knowledge of Spanish, especially for internships carried out outside of Asuncion.

**Age:** The interns are normally older than 20 years when starting the internship.

**To Apply:** Applicants must send a completed application form, which can be downloaded from our website, together with their resume and a photocopy of their passport or ID. We will study the applications and individual Skype calls with members of Fundación Paraguaya staff will be organized with candidates considered for the next stage of the procedure. At the end of this process, we will inform the applicants whether their applications have been accepted.

**Visas:** Most foreign citizens require a visa to enter Paraguay. We will help accepted interns with their visa process but it’s the responsibility of each intern to apply for a visa.

**Insurance:** Interns are required to have international health insurance that will cover them in Paraguay.

**Travel Plans:** Interns must arrive in Paraguay on weekdays in order to organize their housing in the Intern House and their adequate integration at Fundación Paraguaya.

**Cost:** The internships have a cost of US$ 750 per month. Interns are required to pay the full internship fee prior to arrival by wire transfer. No refund will be made if interns leave the internship early.

The Internship Program has a coordinator who accompanies and helps interns prior to arrival and during their stay in Paraguay. The program cost includes an airport pick-up and drop-off, housing at the Intern House, Asuncion city tour and local orientation, all costs associated with the internship coordination such as support during the preparation for the travel, personal attention during the internship, internship supervision, work-related travel, and internship certificate. We seek to include interns in all our social events and activities.
Interns are responsible for their own personal expenses (including food, personal travel, entertainment, health insurance, and the cost of travel to and from Paraguay). Most of the interns spend around US$ 500 per month in Paraguay.

**Housing:** Fundación Paraguaya has a newly re-equipped Intern House two blocks from its main office. The House is fully furnished, with all utilities, Wi-Fi, cable TV, barbeque, and swimming pool. The interns that wish to stay at the House can do so at no additional cost.

The House is located in Los Laureales, a quiet and safe neighborhood, close to a variety of services such as supermarkets, ATMs, restaurants, ice cream shops, shopping malls, and bus lines.

If the internship is carried out at one of the agriculture schools, the housing will be provided at the hotel of the school in question.
INTERNESIS OPPORTUNITIES 2017 - 2018

All interns will be assigned specific tasks to be completed and delivered with a final report. The opportunities offered are in specific areas where Fundación Paraguaya works and the tasks depend on the intern’s particular interest and knowledge.

We seek to ensure that the skills and experiences of the person who wish to apply for an internship match the current needs of Fundación Paraguaya. Therefore, our internship opportunities depend on the time of the year, length of the internship and background of the intern.

POVERTY ELIMINATION STOPLIGHT INTERNSHIPS

Interns may choose to work in one or more related internships depending on their time available and particular interests. They will be supervised by the General Manager, and will be working with other staff members and/or interns who are carrying out similar projects.

Internships available relate to: mentoring a family in the process of escaping poverty, documenting the actions taken and suggesting solutions; processing and analyzing the existing data of the Poverty Stoplight Methodology and suggesting intervention strategies by indicators; bringing new ideas and suggestions on how to expand the scope of the Poverty Stoplight to other international organizations and helping in managing information inquiries; developing a virtual platform that can be used in teaching and training about the Poverty Stoplight Methodology; helping in creating mechanisms for better cooperation between communities and municipalities to work towards a better use of their strengths.
MICROFINANCE INTERNSHIPS

Interns may choose to work in one or more related internships depending on their time available and particular interests. They will be supervised by the Microfinance Manager, and will be working with other staff members and/or interns who are carrying out similar projects.

Internships available relate to: carrying out an investigation on attrition among our credit customers, documenting and analyzing its various causes; developing customer retention strategies and policies to implement the strategies; creating a survey to measure our credit customers’ satisfaction; creating a report that summarizes the best practices of managers, officers, and credit assessors of Fundación Paraguaya in order to successfully systematize and replicate these practices across all offices; carrying out a market study to investigate future microfranchises to be applied.
ENTREPRENEURIAL EDUCATION INTERNSHIPS

Interns may choose to work in one or more related internships depending on their time available and particular interests. They will be supervised by the Entrepreneurial Education Manager, and will be working with other staff members and/or interns who are carrying out similar projects.

Internships available relate to: assisting in the coordination of our public school and youth programs, visiting the schools in which these programs are applied in order of monitor them; assisting in the development of pedagogical proposals for new entrepreneurial education programs and updating the pedagogical proposals of programs that are already in development; producing audiovisual material, working in the pre-production, production, and post-production; developing and updating educational and promotional material to create new content and revitalize our visual communication; analyzing the processes and experiences around every milestone, program, and event to produce material on the lessons learned and the growth of the Entrepreneurial Education area.
SELF-SUSTAINABLE SCHOOLS INTERNSHIPS

Interns may choose to work in one or more related internships depending on their time available and particular interests. They will be supervised by the Self-sustainable Schools Manager, and will be working with other staff members and/or interns who are carrying out similar projects.

Internships available relate to: assisting in the teaching of subjects such as Spanish, English, Portuguese, physical education, mathematics, agriculture, hotel and tourism management; developing and carrying out adolescence workshops on relevant topics such as relationships, self-image, alcohol, drugs, violence, future; producing audiovisual material, filming classes and field practices; searching and digitizing educational material for the Virtual Educational Platform; supporting teachers in incorporating more technology into their classes; upgrading the existing business plans of students, proposing strategies and solutions; developing adventure and eco-tourism packages for the Self-sustainable Schools, working in the planning, implementation, marketing; carrying out technical assistance in various productive units of the Schools.
OTHER INTERNSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

In addition to the above mentioned programs, we offer internship opportunities in other areas of Fundación Paraguaya. For example, there are available opportunities within the Communications and Monitoring and Evaluation departments, which seek to receive interns with high level of knowledge and experience.

Internships available at the Communications department relate to: graphic design; strategic communication plan; web and mobile site design; social media; translations.

Internships available at the Monitoring and Evaluation department relate to: train Fundación Paraguaya's staff; implement adequate data collection processes; collect and monitor data; give feedback and evaluate data.
Questions?

For more information on the current needs of the Internship Program, please contact Fundación Paraguaya’s International Internships Coordination by writing to the email address: internships@fundacionparaguaya.org.py.