

ABOUT US



MISSION — Leadership Initiatives seeks to be the catalyst that turns the ideas and drive of university students worldwide into locally sustainable community development projects. Through our belief in learning by doing, we aim to impart skills, confidence and the spirit of social entrepreneurship to the leaders of tomorrow in order to create indigenous solutions to problems of underdevelopment.

METHOD

Preparing

- Leadership Initiatives trains three staff members in the United States: a Program Manager, a Teacher, and an Operations Coordinator
- By utilizing local staff on the ground to network, a partnership is made with a university in the target community
- The American staff members travel to the community
- After an interview process, 25 students in the partner university are selected

Learning

- Over a period of 2-3 weeks, the staff conducts lectures and discussions that build skills in community planning, project management, fundraising, budgeting, and networking
- Students begin to identify community problems, mentors to assist them, and possible solutions
- By the end of the course, students divide themselves into groups based on the problems with which they most identify and 4-5 of the solutions that seem most feasible
- Each student group, aided by their mentors and LI staff, creates a plan of action and initiates partnerships with universities, businesses, NGOs, and the local government

Sustaining

To ensure year-round sustainability:

1. Local businesses and donors are approached to finance the projects
2. Funds raised in the community are matched by Leadership Initiatives
3. Local offices are established in the community or at the university and staffed with trained in-country personnel
4. Progress reports are submitted to both the local office and headquarters
5. In-country personnel work with students to find ways in which to make projects sustainable as independent Community Based Organizations (CBOs)

For more information, please visit www.LeadershipInitiatives.org
Leadership Initiatives is a 501(c)(3), tax-exempt nonprofit organization.

