
Master's Degree in Applied Community Change and Conservation



Purpose: This two-year Master's Degree program builds the skills and capacity of the world's most promising development practitioners. It allows them to remain in their own countries and to continue serving their communities without having to relocate. This program integrates:

- On the job skills development for the most promising staff of organizations, governments, and communities
- First-hand experience with a wide range of successful international development and conservation programs
- A two-year applied practicum project, executed by the student in his/her current professional and local context
- Cross-cultural peer-to-peer learning in small classes of 20-24 students with mentorship from outstanding faculty



Academic Year: For 20 months, students remain in their home countries and complete an applied practicum project to build new skills and focus on a core question of local relevance. Simultaneous on-line interactive learning helps students build a theoretical and cross-cultural perspective of core topics, which include primary health, nature conservation, peace building, food and water security, and leadership and management.



For one month every term, students join peers and faculty at residential sites in India, the United States, Peru, and Nepal+China. Residentials help students connect coursework and lessons with the experience of outstanding community-based development and conservation projects. Experiences include:

- A one-week immersion focused on social change movements at Gandhi's study center in India
- A two-week study of community-based approaches to nature conservation in the Adirondack State Park in New York
- A one-week intensive course on leadership and management led by two leading faculty from Johns Hopkins University
- A one-month study of Peru's national health care system and approaches for taking local successes to national scale
- A two-week human ecology trek in Nepal's Sagarmatha National Park focused on integrating issues of conservation, peace building, economics and tourism, and social services



For Development Practitioners and Professionals: This learning approach has opened the doors of higher education to practitioners from 22 countries. Students have come from such organizations as:

- Afghanistan Ministry of Health
- BRAC in Bangladesh
- Bhutan Society for the Royal Protection of Nature
- Foundation for Community Development in Mozambique
- Heiltsuk Tribal Council, Canada
- World Relief in Cambodia and Rwanda

Faculty: Future Generations 15 core and adjunct faculty have exceptional academic credentials in core sciences as well as extensive field experience. They come from five countries (United States, China, Peru, India, and Bolivia) and have worked in 85 countries, with particularly extensive research and field operations in Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bolivia, Haiti, India, Nepal, China, Peru, and Vietnam.

Legal Status: The Future Generations Graduate School is a registered 501(c)3 non-profit institution of higher education authorized to offer a Master's Degree by the West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission. The Graduate School is a candidate for initial accreditation from the Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools in the United States.

Tuition and Costs: Costs per student consist of \$35,000 for the two-year tuition. A partnership tuition plan works with organizations, foundations, and governments who seek to enroll their most promising staff and rising leaders.

More Information: The next class begins January 2010. Please visit www.future.org for more details including a viewbook/slideshow, student profiles, course catalog, and application forms.