



# Fact Sheet 2009

## Peace Corps - México

Peace Corps was established in 1961 by President John F. Kennedy to promote cooperation and friendship between the American people and those of other countries and to contribute to their socio-economic development. Peace Corps invites qualified American citizens to spend two years living in their host country while working in specific areas of technical and economic development. Besides contributing to the development of the host country, the program encourages the citizens of both countries to get to know and understand each other as a result of working together towards common goals, thus creating lasting bonds of friendship and goodwill. With this in mind, in November 2003 the Government of Mexico extended an invitation for Peace Corps to assign experienced professionals to work with Mexican research and development institutions that form the network of the National Council for Sciences and Technology (CONACYT).

Under this scheme Peace Corps has invited qualified Volunteers to work in CONACYT technological centers. In June 2006, Peace Corps was honored to sign a new agreement with SEMARNAT the Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources, through which it now works with CONANP (The Mexican Park Service), CONAFOR (The Mexican Forest Service) and several SEMARNAT federal offices in the states.

Since January 2005, Peace Corps has assigned 100 Volunteers to work with CONACYT centers and SEMARNAT offices in the fields of Environmental and Water Engineering, Chemical, Mechanical and Materials Engineering, Information Technology, Business and Organizational Development, English Instruction, Forestry, Watershed, Wildlife and Natural Protected Areas Management; Ecotourism, Environmental Education, GIS, Aquaculture and Sustainable Business. In 2009 we have 13 Volunteers assigned to the CONACYT program and 33 assigned to the SEMARNAT program; on September the 8<sup>th</sup> volunteer group will arrive to Mexico with 14 people making a total of 60.

Peace Corps Volunteers come to Mexico with a deep interest in contributing to its technical and economical development, a willingness to integrate themselves into the Mexican lifestyle, culture and language, and contributing to an improved understanding between the two countries. The Peace Corps Mexico Program has generated considerable interest from many professionals who wish to share their unique skills and knowledge and have a memorable cultural and work-related experience with their Mexican colleagues.



The seventh group of Peace Corps Mexico Volunteers.

## Peace Corps Mexico Coverage



The volunteers are currently assigned to several CONACYT Centers and different SEMARNAT institutions like CONANP, CONAFOR and state offices.

## Contacts:

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