



Construction Project



Availability: All Year

Project Start & End Days: Mondays

Project Work Days: Monday to Fridays (weekends are free)

Support Provided: Program Manager gives detailed introduction and culture training on arrival along with an area orientation tour. Head Teaching Coordinator provides project-specific training and supervises classes daily. Our teaching staff assists participants with lesson planning, guiding them on the specific curriculum to follow each day and conducting daily/weekly meetings with them to monitor progress. Participants also have access to our in-house teaching library consisting of manuals, books and various teaching materials to help with lesson planning and providing general guidance.

Age Requirement: Must be 16 years or over

Nearest Airport: Cochin International Airport (COK)

Location of Project: All construction sites will be in local government primary schools in the Fort Kochi and Mattancherry area. Accommodation will be within 10-15 mins by tuktuk from the project site.

Background to this Program: In the Fort Kochi and Mattancherry area, there are a number of government schools, ranging from primary to secondary, that cater to children of varying ages. Public (or government) schools provide free education to children and cater to the poorer sections of the community. Whilst teachers salaries, school lunch and some maintenance money comes from the government, often these schools lack resources and funding is never enough for the upkeep of the school. Classrooms are not equipped well with enough furniture, fans, lights or basic teaching tools like whiteboards, projectors or computers. Most government school buildings are old and facilities like bathrooms, play areas, library areas and classrooms are very basic, missing or not suitable.

Meals Provided: Breakfast, lunch and dinner (Except Sunday dinners)

What our Volunteers do on the Project: : We work with a few public schools in the Fort Kochi and Mattancherry area - both with kindergarten school and secondary school. Both are not well-funded and in need of refurbishment, hence the impact our volunteers make there is substantial and very much appreciated. Projects will be for 4-5 hours Monday to Friday.

For the school painting program volunteers will be focused on repainting classroom walls or school building walls and making murals or beautification to make the school look inviting and appealing for children and staff attending this. A lot of children come from poor families and many do not have the motivation to study or attend school at times. Their homes are small, dull and most end up playing on the streets as they do not have toys at home. If their school looks and feels beautiful, their desire to attend school and study will increase. The teachers will also feel motivated to teach if their working environment is improved and classrooms are made brighter and learning conducive. Volunteers should come with an open mind and no one needs to be an artist to paint walls! This program is possible year round.

For the gardening and play area program volunteers will be helping to improve facilities in the school for children by creating a play area and a garden with herbs, vegetables and flowers. Volunteers will use locally available materials for creating a play area and garden that the children can enjoy. We would like volunteers to come up with creative ways to improve play facilities without the use of scrap and industrial waste like old tyres etc. This program is not possible during monsoons in the months of June, July and August. Minimum of 6 volunteers would be useful for this program.

Recommended Attire: A conservative dress code needs to be adhered to while at the project. Knees and shoulders must be covered, as well as any tattoos or body art. Rest of the clothing can be comfortable and casual.