

Engineering Internships – Roads
with CRACYP
for Progreso Verde (“Green Progress”)



2012

Introduction

This document should be read in conjunction with the Internship Information Pack available at www.progresoverde.org/internship.html

The small local roads leading to various isolated communities in Ecuador are frequently impassable due to mud, flooding or landslips. CRACYP has various projects to connect rural farmers with fair trade markets – but they need to get their produce to those markets, so the poor roads are blocking these families’ access to a better quality of living.

Objectives

We need engineering interns to evaluate a section of road, design a solution (e.g. bridge, drainage, repair, etc.) and prepare a costing to implement the solution. Small or simple solutions may be implemented by calling a “minga” (community work party) and working with the farmers to make the repair. Larger, more complicated or costly solutions may need to be done by the council, but your study is an excellent tool to pressure them into action.

Currently the council are implementing a plan prepared by an engineering student last summer, so when the rainy season starts again, the sugar cane farmers of Guatzaví village will no longer have to miss out on the opportunity to earn a fair price for their organic product.

Location

You will be based in the picturesque little village of Jilimbí in Bolivar Province, close to the border with Cotopaxi Province. The nearest town you might find on a map is Moraspungo, about an hour’s journey up into the mountains from the main road between Quevedo and Ventanas. You may work on roads in or around Jilimbí itself or in any of several villages or member communities of the CADO sugar cane project.

Requirements

Engineering interns will need to either be fairly independent or else have access to engineering advice by email from their university, if needed. CRACYP’s Executive Secretary has some knowledge of road construction, and may be able to offer support by telephone, but he is not usually in the local area and only speaks Spanish. Interns will have support from a volunteer coordinator who can help with translation, but she is not an engineer. Spanish language skills would be useful.

How to Apply

Read the Internship Information Pack for details of how to apply.

