



foundation for sustainable development



your partner in building a sustainable world

FSD: What We Do



Photo by Bartek Pogoda

The Foundation for Sustainable Development (FSD) was founded in 1995 to support locally-managed, grassroots organizations working to improve the welfare of marginalized communities throughout the world. By increasing organizational capacity and collaboratively empowering communities to implement sustainable solutions, FSD has created a model to:

1. Increase development's impact within struggling communities
2. Train future leaders in bottom-up, sustainable development practices
3. Facilitate cross-cultural understanding and expansion of worldviews

Our work addresses the root causes of poverty, hunger and poor health in eight countries. FSD provides grassroots organizations with human resources, financial resources, and technical assistance in Latin America, East Africa, and India. FSD partners with over 160 organizations that use sustainable, fundamentally sound approaches to their work. Our partner NGOs already have programs in place but need funding and technical assistance to bring them to full fruition.

Specifically, FSD and its partner organizations collaboratively work to:

- Increase economic opportunities to underserved communities
 - Expand accessibility to needed healthcare
 - Ensure advancement of human rights programs
- Support women's empowerment projects and shift oppressive cultural norms
 - Advance innovative approaches to community development
 - Foster increased awareness of environmental issues and the implementation of technical solutions
- Provide additional educational opportunities and social services

Our Organizational Approach to Development

FSD facilitates capacity building and support for our partner organizations in a number of ways. Our interns and volunteers provide valuable services and perspectives that are often lacking for many of these organizations. The FSD grant fund supports short- and long-term projects jointly carried out by our interns and partner organizations. Finally, FSD provides technical assistance through workshops, materials and direct consulting on needed topics.

Challenges to successful international development projects are complex and inter-related. FSD approaches these obstacles by encouraging its volunteers to work with the most fundamental agents of change, community members themselves. By enriching our volunteers' understanding of sustainable development, facilitating their entry into local communities, and funding well-developed projects, FSD works to overcome obstacles to sustainable development.

Examples of these successful partnerships include:

An FSD intern working with one of our partner organizations in Kenya saw a need to diversify and enhance economic opportunities open to women and youth in the region. He helped to establish a non-profit bakery that today not only generates employment for the region but also provides a base of funding for additional income-generating ventures.

An FSD intern working with one of our partner organizations in Bolivia formed a partnership with over 40 members of the local community and pooled resources with a grant from FSD to rebuild a broken water system. The project not only brought clean drinking water to the village, helping to improve the health of the community but also empowered the community to solve future problems and sustain the water system.



We Need Your Support

Consider Volunteering:

FSD appreciates the assistance of volunteers and interns who help in a number of ways. Volunteers work regular business hours in the office and occasionally on independent projects at home. Please contact us if you are interested in volunteering. We do receive a high number of requests for volunteering and we are only able to accommodate a limited number of volunteers. Preference is given to those who are able to make long term commitments.

Make a Contribution:

The FSD Grant Fund is maintained solely from our fund-raising efforts. 100% of money donated to the FSD Grant Fund goes to fund international projects implemented by volunteers and interns. Our overhead costs are covered through the paid work we do placing interns with international organizations and by private sector grants. We receive no government assistance and rely on the donations of individuals like you to provide essential financial support.



In the last year FSD provided over \$50,000 in grants and donations to more than 60 international community based organizations. These funds enabled organizations to better address the specific needs of their communities. Our grant program is very efficient and cost effective. The projects we fund are designed and implemented as a culmination of the partnership between a host organization and an FSD volunteer. This maximizes the impact of the grant and helps assure that the grant money is effectively used.

Please consider making a contribution to FSD on our website:
www.fsdinternational.org or by sending a check to:
FSD, 870 Market Street Suite #321 San Francisco CA 94102

Consider Volunteering Abroad

- Internships/Volunteer positions are offered from one week to one year
- Immerse yourself by living with a host family
 - Receive on-site orientation, support, and development training from our field staff
 - Carry out significant project work with your host organization and compete for FSD funding
 - Learn more and apply at www.fsdinternational.org



Want to learn more?

A listing of previous projects and information about interns' experiences can be found by going to our website and clicking on recent project examples and/or veteran voices.

For more information:

www.fsdinternational.org

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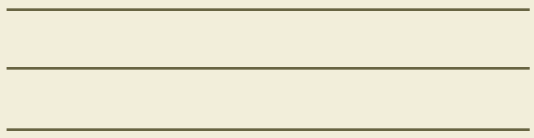
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FSD is a not-for-profit charitable organization with 501(c)(3) status. We are a non-endowed foundation and rely on the annual support of generous individuals, foundations, and corporations.

Cover photo courtesy of Bartek Pogoda

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