

Zambia Eco Construction

Help to build safe structures for local Livingstone communities by using ecological and self sustaining methods and recycled materials.

Zambia, unlike most of its neighbours, has managed to avoid the war and upheaval that has marked much of Africa's post colonial history, earning itself a reputation for political stability. Rich culture, beautiful landscapes and an abundance of wildlife make Zambia an excellent place for international visitors. Zambia is also home to the Zambezi River which flows into 'the smoke that thunders', or Victoria Falls as it is known worldwide.

20 national parks together, reserved for the conservation of its native wildlife, together make up approximately 30% of Zambia. The people of Zambia comprise several diverse tribes and ethnic groups many with their own unique beliefs and traditions. These factors combine to give Zambia an extraordinary and complex social, political and environmental landscape.

Like many other developing countries around the globe, Zambia faces significant challenges when it comes to waste and rubbish management. As cities and countries grow economically the increase in business and industrial activities and the resultant consumption work together to drive up rubbish levels. In Zambia there just isn't sufficient capacity for collection, transportation and disposal of various types of material wastes especially plastics such as bottles and bags.

Awareness and knowledge of the benefits of recycling and upcycling is not widespread and there is a lack of knowledge as to the impact material waste has on human health and the environment. This project attempts to change this by using eco friendly and innovative building methods such as 'eco-bricking' to recycle waste and rubbish and provide buildings and facilities for the use of local communities.

Project highlights

- Help to reduce waste in order to clean up Livingstone
- Build sustainable structures for local communities
- Visit the famous Victoria Falls

PROJECT REQUIREMENTS

- Minimum age of 18 years

FAST FACTS

Location	Livingstone, Zambia
Activities	Introduction to Livingstone and the project Making and laying eco bricks Assist in building and refurbishing

	projects
Transport	Airport pickup
Accommodation	Shared volunteer guesthouse

What does the project do?

Our partner in Zambia has extensive experience in offering structured placements for volunteers who are able to make a positive contribution to these projects, which are run in partnership with local communities alongside conservation efforts. One of the main aims of this project is to assist Livingstone communities in creating and using innovative and eco-friendly community spaces.

Recycling what would otherwise be rubbish and put into landfill and using it as building material means that there is less contamination in the land and waterways, healthier people and a cleaner and more attractive environment in which to live. Faced with few alternatives, many families and communities have no option but to burn their rubbish and plastic, which has a detrimental impact on human health and the environment. Providing people with an alternative use for their waste reduces the problem.

There are also several other build projects around the community that are supervised by local engineers and builders including compost bins, water storage facilities, benches, flowerbeds, chicken coops, pumphouses and classrooms. The project also aims to help communities to set up sustainable farming programmes and to provide assistance in preparing the land and maintaining crops, including building poultry houses and other facilities for income generating programmes.

What will I be doing?

Eco-brick making is an important aspect of this project and volunteers will make them by stuffing plastic bottles collected from the community with articles including cellophane, chip packets, sweet wrappers, plastic bags and anything else that can't easily be recycled. The eco-bricks will then be used for whatever build project is the priority during your time there. You may also assist in community litter picks during which you will collect rubbish to help make eco-bricks.

Generally, however, the work you carry out during your time on the project will depend on the current needs and priorities of the community. You may help to refurbish an old playground, paint a classroom or build a chicken coop, compost bin or park bench. Other work may involve mixing cement, making and laying bricks, laying concrete floors, plastering walls and painting or refurbishing existing structures. Raising awareness about the benefits of recycling and how to do it is also very important and you may have the chance to assist with workshops to help improve community understanding of recycling and upcycling.

What happens when I arrive?

Provided you arrive in Livingstone on the Monday, you will be met by an in-country staff member at the airport and taken to your accommodation.

Where will I be staying?

Volunteers stay in a comfortable and secure volunteer house which is within a 5 minute walk from Livingstone town centre. There is a dining area, western style bathrooms, bar, swimming pool and even a rock-climbing wall, which is available for you to use! Rooms are single sex, linen is provided and there is 24 hour security and also lockers to store your valuables.

What will I be eating?

During the week (Monday- Friday) you will be provided with 3 meals a day. The meals provided at your accommodation are simple but tasty. At the weekends you will need to cater for yourself. This is a great opportunity to explore the local cuisine and try out some of the nearby restaurants which serve a variety of Zambia's delicious food, such as fresh fish, vegetables, fruit and maize-based dishes. A national speciality to try is Ibatwu, a feisty drink made with fermented roots.

COSTS

2 weeks	US\$ 1,395
3 weeks	US\$ 1,795
4 weeks	US\$ 2,145
5 weeks	US\$ 2,645
6 weeks	US\$ 2,995
7 weeks	US\$ 3,345
8 weeks	US\$ 3,695
9 weeks	US\$ 3,995
10 weeks	US\$ 4,345
11 weeks	US\$ 4,695
12 weeks	US\$ 5,045

DEPARTURE DATES

This project runs weekly; please arrive on the Monday.

DURATION

Minimum 2 weeks

WHAT'S INCLUDED

Before you go

- Pre-departure support & documentation
- Travel & medical advice & documentation
- Advice on equipment
- Discounted medical kit
- Free Frontier T-shirt

In-country

- Airport pick up
- Weekday Meals
- Accommodation
- Local orientation & training
- In-country emergency support
- 24 hour international HQ back-up

AIRPORT INFORMATION

Nearest airport(s): Livingstone (LVI)

CONTACT INFORMATION

Call us on 020 7613 2422 (UK) / 1 949 336 8178 (US)

Mail us on info@frontier.ac.uk

Check out our social media here:

Project details were correct at the time this document was generated. Price, dates and other details are subject to change. Please see our website for current details for this project.