How your support is helping Indigenous Bolivian women like Rosa

You are helping to change the face of business in Tanzania

Village pond project offers Laotian farmers new hope thanks to you
When you first arrive in La Paz, Bolivia, you feel as if you can touch the clouds. At 3,660 metres above sea level, La Paz is the highest capital in the world. Homes cling precariously to the steep sloping hillsides while the snow capped peaks of Mt. Illimani frame the city. It’s here, in one of the poorest countries in Latin America, that Javier Michel has returned home to make a difference.

As a diaspora volunteer with Cuso International, your support helped Javier use his connections, knowledge, and shared culture and language to have an impact on some of the country’s most disadvantaged people.

“The poorest person in the world is an Indigenous woman. These women face a lot of gender barriers in order to survive and to help their children survive.”

During Javier's two-year volunteer placement, you helped him train hundreds of impoverished women in skilled trades so they can support their families. You helped him reach out to the urban poor to help 1,000 Indigenous men and women find meaningful jobs. Most recently, your support meant Javier was able to help train rural Indigenous youth in need of work in La Paz. Thank you for helping Javier make an impact!
CHANGING THE FACE OF BUSINESS IN TANZANIA:

A new project helps small business owners climb out of poverty thanks to you

Over the past decade, Tanzania’s economy has experienced a surge in growth. Unfortunately, many local men and women haven’t seen the benefits in their own lives. That’s about to change thanks to a new project you are making possible.

Under the sunny skies of Dar es Salaam, dozens of small business owners recently joined Cuso International and partners for the launch of the Tanzania Local Enterprise Development (T-LED) program, designed to inspire economic development and grow sustainable local jobs.

Women entrepreneurs in attendance talk with pride about their business ventures and share some of the obstacles that stand in the way of their growth. Thanks to your support, T-LED will give them the opportunity to learn new skills to improve and expand their businesses, because when small business owners and farmers succeed, entire communities benefit. Your support will help make this happen in other countries around the world.

BATTLING THE DRY SEASON IN LAOS:

Your support helps farmers grow vegetables close to home

In the small village of Ban Phailom in central Laos, the dry season lasts from November to April. During this time of extreme water scarcity, it’s difficult to grow the vegetables needed to reduce the widespread problem of malnutrition. Now, your support is making a difference.

Located across the main pathway from the village is a unique, large pond that remains full of water throughout the year. The challenge? Access to this important resource. While the pond belongs to the community, the land surrounding it is privately owned. Thanks to you, Cuso International worked with local partners to find a solution.

Volunteers worked with the community leader and land owner to create a pond usage agreement that benefits everyone. A training workshop was held for interested farmers – 12 households are now in charge of maintaining new vegetable gardens using the pond water for irrigation. This simple, effective solution is improving nutrition and livelihoods and setting an example for other villages in Southeast Asia.

“Cuso International’s approach is holistic, with people on the ground and people working on policy to make an impact.”

- Jerome Villanueva, Cuso International Volunteer, Laos
YOUR IMPACT

Your gifts help Cuso International send volunteers around the world, where they are needed most.

Together, with our local partners we are creating positive, lasting change.
Thanks to your generosity, in 2014-15 Cuso International volunteers worked with 170 local partners in 26 developing countries throughout Africa, Asia, the Caribbean and Latin America to reduce poverty and inequality for more than 400,000 people.

Every $1 has the power of $10
Thanks to support from Global Affairs Canada, your gift will be multiplied to achieve 10 times the impact.

Give now and watch your generosity do 10x the good!

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Was someone you know a Cuso International volunteer?

We’re looking for them! We want to make sure we can celebrate the contribution they made to the world through their volunteering placement. Please ask them to get in touch!
Phone us at 1-888-434-2876 x 222 or visit www.cusointernational.org/alumni

We’d love to hear from you

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