

Monthly



Update

Uganda Quick Update:

After finishing an implementation this summer, two brand new projects are starting in Uganda. Both are in the village Kalisizo, close to the sites of past projects. One new project is providing irrigation for a coffee nursery and the other is bringing clean water to the village.

Guatemala Quick Update:

The group is currently writing the 526 from the recent implementation, testing a scale model ram pump at St. Anthony Falls Lab and looking into future project ideas after the ram pump project is finished.



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New Freshman Involvement

With the new school year started, there are always new faces at all of the chapter's meetings. This year one of the administration's goals is to increase freshmen involvement and, as a result, retention. To learn what each project is doing, we asked the project leads to share their strategies.

In Uganda, freshmen are encouraged to get involved in small breakout groups. In this smaller setting, they have an opportunity to ask personal questions and not be embarrassed or nervous to raise their hands in a big group setting. In addition to freshmen, new

members are also encouraged to take on jobs like wiki master that do not require a lot of technical experience. As the wiki master, people can be heavily evolved with the group and have a larger responsibility while not having to worry about knowing a computer aided design program.

In the Guatemala group freshman are given meaningful tasks right away. In groups of two or three freshmen work on projects creating a social aspect of finishing accomplishments. The physical testing of the ram pump was planned for the beginning of the year as well to give people more of a chance to get involved.

New Freshmen Involvement, Continued

Participating in the Freshmen Leadership Board (FLB) is another great way for freshmen to get involved in the chapter. Here is what the class of 2017 has been up to in EWB's FLB:

It is their goal to redesign the rainwater-harvesting model. Trevor Lipkey, FLB member majoring in Mechanical Engineering, has synthesized an electronic drawing of the new model. It includes specifications to reduce spills, a more realistic roof simulation by corrugated metal, and removable parts for easier transportation to and from events.

This month FLB members attended the CSE Alumni Homecoming Celebration and started organizing a practice project to experience the process for obtaining a new project. A mock project has been chosen, and FLB has begun to organize a decision matrix. Currently, Reed Saunders and upper classmen in EWB advises the group, but the group plans to elect their own leadership within the month.

The administration is pleased with the amount of freshmen participation. Thanks to all new members for the work they have done so far. If you have feedback on this goal, please share your experience with an admin, project lead or email ewb@umn.edu.

Fun Facts about Our Project Countries

1. Did you know? Denim was invented in Guatemala.



3. In Latin America, there is no differentiation between limes and lemons.



2. In Uganda, pan-fried grasshoppers are a seasonal treat. In the summer you can see large sets of fluorescent lights set up to lure them in.

New Project Update (Formerly Known as Honduras)

Last year, our chapter started a project in Honduras related to a concurrent project of the EWB MN Professional Chapter. The group was ready to travel for an assessment trip when the project was canceled due to a travel warning. The group now referred to as "Formerly Known as Honduras" is investigating a project in the Dominican Republic. A community outside of the capital, Santo Domingo, has asked for help in flood relief. The group is currently looking at the feasibility of the project and searching for a project mentor interested in flood reduction and water management. If you are interested in being a mentor for any project, please email ewb@umn.edu