



Photo by Dag Peak

Environmental issues in Argentina are typical of those of most developing nations: water, air quality, deforestation, and soil degradation. Many nongovernmental and governmental agencies work towards research and policy making that address pressing threats to the preservation of Argentina's wondrous natural landscapes, forests, and farmlands. Experts agree that it isn't the laws that are deficient in Argentina; rather it is repeated failures to enforce current laws. With the added internal conflict of the 2001 economic crisis, the struggle to balance economic growth and environmental preservation is a major challenge. The environmental, social, and health of costs of these habits are not being computed into Argentina's economic formula.

In order to create enforceable policies, research must be done and the public must be educated. FSD interns in Argentina have the opportunity to conduct vital research that informs many projects initiated by FSD host organizations (specifically research in public transportation, public awareness campaigns, national and international environmental law policies, and air emissions cataloging). Other interns and volunteers support the implementation of project work that is fed by critical research. These various projects lay the foundation for any type of hope for future policy changes and their enforcement, making skilled interns and volunteers an absolute necessity for the environmental sustainability of Argentina.

Internship/Volunteer opportunities in environment in Argentina include:

- Support the creation of workshops, community events, seminars, and campaigns that address subjects ranging from local ecological awareness to environmental issues related to unique regions such as Tierra del Fuego and Patagonia.
- Develop a biodiesel production project at an agricultural school and teach students/staff how biodiesel can cost-effectively support energy needs.
- Enhance an FSD project to complete an inventory of local greenhouse gas emissions to design and implement a plan of action.
- Comprehensively research both governmental and non-governmental environmental agencies and their projects. Research is used to expand communication between the agencies and create a network in which they can exchange experiences, knowledge, and support each other's ongoing projects/programs.
- Assist with the preservation and sustainable use of land throughout Argentina via projects such as: cooperating with the local Department of Agriculture to recover traditional crops; supporting regional biodiversity and assistance of local farmers; preserving trails and routes used by hikers and bicyclists; organizing local events that support traditional, local agriculture, such as the annual tomato festival; converting retired railroad lines into biodiversity zones; and/or promoting organizational activities to environmental journalists and at national summits.

For more opportunities in environment in Argentina, visit our website or contact us directly.