Global Vision International
Phang Nga, Thailand
Costal Conservation Internship

Organization Overview

GVI was established in 1998 and operates award winning International Internships and Service Learning programs focused on global issues and framed around the UN’s Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). We partner and support many local and international NGOs and government organizations including the National Parks of Thailand, Mexico, Costa Rica and South Africa, WWF (Mexico), Save the Children (Mexico), Red Cross (Fiji), Panthera, The UN Global Compact and many others around the world.

All GVI’s projects have short, mid and long-term objectives that fit with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals or UNSDGs. These are a set of coherent goals focused on sustainable development in the economic, social and environmental fields.

GVI’s main goal is based on making viable changes in all the communities we work in. We run responsible and sustainable award-winning projects and are proud to say that the impact of our work is life changing, for both the local people, our partners and our volunteers. Volunteers from all ages and from all walks of life contribute to this important impact and success of our projects.

Our core ethics and best practices we believe are essential to the operation of high quality, ethical volunteer, and sustainable development programs:

- Locally-driven, Collaborative Projects
- Clear Objectives and Sustainable Outcomes
- Impact Reporting
- Working Against Dependency
- Responsible Exit Strategies
- Clear Roles and Specialized Training
- Respect for All
- Local Ownership
- Transitioning from The Orphanage Model
- Child and Vulnerable Adults Protection

Social Issue Focus & Impact

Conservation projects involve working at our partner turtle research and conservation center; assisting with animal husbandry, enclosure enrichment studies, morphological studies and enclosure cleaning and maintenance. You may also be involved in biodiversity and camera trapping surveys on nearby naturally pristine and barely habited islands. -You will be involved in regular beach cleans, bird & butterfly surveys and teaching environmental education classes, along with other environmental awareness initiatives in the local community. You will learn different survey methods and have the opportunity to put some of them into practice. From November to April, you may also be involved in coral reef...
monitoring. Snorkeling takes place once a week. You may also get the opportunity to take part in special events with our partners, like mangrove planting or summer camps at the schools. Interns receive Leadership training, and training in biodiversity survey skills. Interns carry out a leadership project and receive one on one mentoring with a GVI staff member.

**Position Description**

The Phang Nga coast, particularly around Khao Lak, was hit hard in the 2004 Boxing Day tsunami. The work we do will help assess the recovery of the marine ecosystem in the area. * Tourism is growing at an incredible rate in Southern Thailand, often with little consideration for the effects on the environment. We work with the community to increase awareness of the importance of preserving their natural resources * Rubbish/garbage is a huge problem in Thailand, particularly on the coast. By running regular beach, mangrove & village clean ups involving the community we hope to raise awareness of the effects of waste on the environment and the need for effective waste management. Some of our local partners include Coral Watch, Green Fins, Ocean Conservancy and The New Light Foundation.

- To provide equal, quality education to children of all backgrounds.
- To promote good health and wellbeing through education to all children.
- Increase skills for local people to assist with equal employment opportunities in our communities within Takuapa and Ban Nam Khem.
- Increase awareness of local populations to environmental issues and facilitate change towards sustainability through scientific studies.
- Increase our in-country capacity by providing environmental and conservation education and training.
- To assist and develop local coastal conservation efforts through providing practical support to project partners, research, awareness raising and habitat restoration.

**Student Profile**

Students with experience working in cross-cultural settings and flexibility will be viewed favorably.

**Time Frame**

6 – 12 week options available.