

Global Citizen Journey

Grassroots Connections. Bridges of Peace.



Global Citizen Journey joins hearts and hands across countries and continents. We are a nonprofit organization with a vision of deep, ongoing connections that build understanding and bridge cultural differences with bonds of peace. Our mission is to create opportunities for this to happen, especially in places little known beyond their borders.

GCJ offers journeys of discovery, where people meet heart-to-heart and village-to-village. Participant “delegates” live and work with their host-country counterparts for two to three weeks – sharing their unique cultural gifts, learning from each other and finding the joy of common human ground.

Together, they complete a community service project and take part in dynamic workshops on compassionate listening, conflict resolution and other topics to promote cross-cultural communication and leadership development. Journeys are carefully designed to create relationships that extend the connections between individuals and communities beyond the trips themselves.

GCJ arises from the question, “How can we create a culture of peace and world stewardship?” We believe the best place to start is with a simple yet profound network of grassroots connections: global citizens in the making.



www.globalcitizenjourney.org

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GCJ Burundi 2009

Would you like to meet your global neighbors, be a citizen diplomat and peacemaker? Take this journey of discovery. As a GCJ delegate you can be part of a life changing adventure in sharing, learning and building.

WHAT: Delegation of 15 U.S. and 15 African delegates to Burundi, in Central/East Africa

WHEN: Summer 2009

PROGRAM: Healing and reconciliation will be a major theme, as many of our African delegates include Hutus and Tutsis as well as individuals from nearby Congo, Rwanda, and Kenya. As our service/work project, we will join the villagers of Carama, a district just north of Bujumbura, to bring the first clean water and sanitation system for this community of 8,000. We will co-host Town Hall meetings with the community “How do We Create Well Being for Ourselves?” and another with Bujumbura citizens “How Can We Create Prosperity and the Future We Want for Our Children?”

BURUNDI HOST: Prosper Ndabishuriye, founder of JRMD (Youth in Reconstruction of the World in Destruction).

WHO: Delegates living in Puget Sound diverse in age, gender, ethnicity and faiths, as well as professions and skills (e.g. teachers, health practitioners, entrepreneurs, water specialists). We will match African delegates as closely as possible, so we can share networks and interests, perhaps generating future projects. Knowledge of French is a bonus, though not required. No matter what your background, we urge you to apply if you feel passion for these goals.

COSTS: Program fees (\$3150 plus airfare) cover all ground costs and a contribution for the service project and African delegate costs. Please don't let the costs be a barrier: many delegates have raised their full program fees. Our vision includes the outreach that occurs when delegates gather support from friends and organizations. We provide fundraising materials.

HOW: Look for the application materials and more details on the website: <http://globalcitizenjourney.org/journeys/burundi-2008/>

