



Changing lives

working in international development



Courses of study

More than thirty universities in the UK offer courses covering various aspects of international development and/or appropriate technology. Most of these focus on development policy, agriculture or economics, and an increasing number offer distance learning or short specialist courses. More information can be obtained from the following:

The British Council

For all enquiries contact The British Council Information Centre.
Tel: +44 (0) 161 957 7755. Fax: +44 (0) 161 957 7762.
E-mail: general.enquiries@britishcouncil.org.
Website: www.britishcouncil.org

The British Council is the main source of guidance for international students wishing to study in the UK and can provide information about full-time, part-time or distance learning courses in the UK, studying on a UK course while abroad or applying to a UK university or college.

The Universities and Colleges Admission Service for the UK (UCAS)

Rosehill, New Barn Lane, Cheltenham GL52 3LZ.
Tel: +44 (0) 08701122211. E-mail: enquiries@ucas.ac.uk.
Website: www.ucas.com Information and advice for applicants to full-time undergraduate courses in the UK.

The British Overseas NGOs for Development (BOND)

Website: www.bond.org.uk BOND offers training of interest and value to NGOs and individuals working in the field of international development.

Guide to Development Studies Courses in UK and Ireland

Compiled by the Development Studies Association, this guide to undergraduate, postgraduate and short courses is available online at www.devstud.org.uk/courseguide.

UKCOSA: The Council for International Education

9-17 St Albans Place, London N1 0NX.
Tel: +44 (0) 20 72884330. E-mail: enquiries@ukcosa.org.uk
Website: www.ukcosa.org.uk UKCOSA provides information and advice to international students intending to study in the UK.

Higher Education and Research Opportunities in the UK (HERO)

Website: www.hero.ac.uk A 'gateway' website to the UK universities colleges and research organisations in the UK.

Centre for Alternative Technology (CAT)

CAT, Machynlleth, Powys SY20 9AZ. Tel: +44 (0) 1654 705950.
Fax: + 44 (0) 1654 702782. Website: www.cat.org.uk CAT offers information of interest and value to NGOs and individuals working in the field of agriculture.

Finding help with education expenses

Practical Action is not a funding organisation we are therefore unable to provide financial assistance with educational grants. If you are an overseas student seeking help with education expenses we suggest you contact your Ministry of Education,



Non-formal school for displaced children in Bangladesh

the nearest British Council office and the college or university you wish to attend for information on funding opportunities. Scholarships, fellowships and bursaries may also be available from educational trusts and foundations, United Nations agencies, the European Union and Regional Development Banks. The following organisations and publications may help you identify suitable sources of funding.

The Educational Grants Advisory Service (EGAS)

501-505 Kingsland Road, London E8 4AU.
Tel: +44 (0) 20 7254 6251. E-mail egas.enquiry@fwa.org.uk.
EGAS offers guidance and advice on funding for those studying in post 16 education in the UK. EGAS also maintains a large database to identify potential sources of financial help for students. For more information visit the website: www.egas-online.org.uk.

The Educational Grants Directory

Directory of Social Change Publications. ISBN 1 900360 70 5
The directory provides a list of education funding sources up to and including degree level for individuals in need, a model of how to make an effective application, and a basic guide to welfare benefits, statutory funding, loans and sponsorship.

The Grants Register

Palgrave. ISBN 0333947290 Updated annually, this is a comprehensive guide to over 4,500 postgraduate and professional awards worldwide.

Study Abroad

UNESCO ISBN 92 3 0038881
An international guide to higher education study opportunities and scholarships offered by universities, specialised schools and international organisations worldwide. This book can be found on the UNESCO website: www.unesco.org.

International Awards 2001+

Association of Commonwealth Universities. ISBN 0 85143 176 3
This directory of funding opportunities for students and researchers wishing to study in a country other than their own includes award schemes offered by sponsors from the United States and Europe and by many Commonwealth universities.

About Practical Action

Practical Action is a charity that uses simple, innovative ideas to help people change their lives for the better. We have a unique approach to development we don't start with the technology, we start with the people. For more than 40 years Practical Action has been working alongside communities in Africa, Asia and Latin America, to find practical solutions to the poverty they face.

Practical Action's approach is to focus our work on four key areas.

- We help reduce the vulnerability of poor people affected by natural disasters, conflict and environmental degradation – events which are becoming widespread.
- We help poor people to make a better living by enabling producers to improve their production, processing and marketing.
- We help poor communities gain access to basic services, such as clean water, food, housing and electricity.
- We help poor communities respond to new challenges, helping them access simple, effective technologies that can change lives forever.

Practical Action actively seeks to work with communities in a collaborative way, sharing knowledge and experiences, and bringing positive, lasting change to people's lives.

Career opportunities with Practical Action

Practical Action's offices around the world are staffed by people from within the country where they are situated. This way we ensure our programme staff are close to local people, enabling us to work alongside them in genuine partnership. For this reason Practical Action does not run a voluntary overseas programme. Opportunities to work for Practical Action in the UK are limited to permanent positions as and when they arise, and occasionally opportunities for short-term research and voluntary work. Permanent positions are advertised in the national press in the relevant countries, in journals and on Practical Action's website: www.practicalaction.org. To find out whether voluntary or temporary opportunities are available, please write to our Human Resources Unit with information about your skills and experience.

Consultants with professional experience of working in developing countries can register with Practical Action Consulting who carries out a wide range of work in enterprise development, sustainable livelihoods, energy and the environment. Contact Practical Action Consulting directly or apply to join their consultants register through the website, where any current UK-based vacancies are also advertised www.PracticalActionConsulting.org.

Working in international development

If you are considering a career in international development and/or appropriate technology you should bear in mind that most agencies are looking for a combination of qualifications and several years' relevant work experience.

Volunteering opportunities

For individuals wishing to work in developing countries, a wide range of opportunities are available, created by UK-based organisations that work through volunteers. Placements with the largest of these, listed below, are based with local organisations and/or government departments in developing countries and aim to reduce poverty and promote self-reliance through the sharing of volunteers' skills. Applicants must be qualified and/or experienced in their chosen field and demonstrate commitment, resourcefulness, sensitivity to other cultures and an aptitude for teamwork. Volunteers are advised to enquire about the benefits they will receive; these vary between organisations but usually include pre-departure training, flights, accommodation, a modest living allowance, national insurance contributions, medical insurance and resettlement grants.

Voluntary Service Overseas (VSO)

317 Putney Bridge Road, London SW15 2PN.

Tel: +44 (0) 20 8780 7200. Fax: +44 (0) 20 8780 7300.

E-mail enquiry@vso.org.uk. Website: www.vso.org.uk

The largest independent volunteer-sending agency in the world, VSO offers two-year volunteer placements in almost all professions in over 60 countries and shorter volunteer assignments to highly experienced professionals who can provide advice at senior levels. These assignments can last from 2 weeks to 6 months and are based in the same countries and on the same programme as the long term volunteers.

Skillshare International

126 New Walk, Leicester LE1 7JA. Tel: + 44 (0) 116 254 1862.

Fax: +44 (0) 116 254 2614. E-mail: info@skillshare.org.

Website: www.skillshare.org Skillshare International works for sustainable development through two-year volunteer placements in nine countries in Africa and Asia.

International Service (IS)

Hunter House, 57 Goodramgate, York YO1 7FX.

Tel: + 44 (0) 1904 647799. Fax: +44 (0) 1904 652353.

E-mail: is@internationalservice.org.uk.

Website: www.internationalservice.org.uk

International Service recruits professionals for two-year placements with organisations in Latin America, West Africa and the Middle East.

Returned Volunteer Action (RVA) Introductory Pack

Available from RVA, 1 Amwell Street, London EC1R 1TH.

Tel: + 44 (0) 20 72780804. Fax: +44 (0) 20 72787019.

E-mail: retvolact@lineone.net. £3.50 plus a 44p stamped, self-addressed envelope. This pack includes a guide to opportunities and two booklets that aim to help people who are considering volunteering overseas to think through the issues and implications in an informed way.

A list of contact details for many more organisations offering short-term voluntary work overseas, both skilled and unskilled, can be found in the World Service Enquiry guide.

Other work opportunities

For individuals seeking work with other development organisations or UK-based charities we recommend contacting the following:

World Service Enquiry (WSE)

233 Bon Marché Centre, 241-251 Ferndale Road,
London SW9 8BJ. Tel: +44 (0) 20 73465950.

E-mail: wse@cabroad.org.uk. Website: www.wse.org.uk

World Service Enquiry provides information, advice and an annual guide to volunteering and working in development. To receive a paper copy of the booklet send an A5 stamped address envelope along with a cheque/Postal Order for £5. The guide contains contact details for hundreds of organisations with voluntary work opportunities, both skilled and unskilled, and sources of information on working overseas such as books, websites and registers of personnel working in relief and development. WSE also publishes 'Opportunities Abroad', a monthly list of vacancies with development, aid and relief jobs, which is available online or as a printed bulletin.

OneWorld International

2nd floor, River House, 143-145 Farrington Road,
London EC1R 3AB. Tel: +44 (0) 20 72391400.

Fax: +44 (0) 20 78338347. E-mail: justice@oneworld.net

Website: www.oneworld.net

OneWorld is a community of more than 2,000 partner organisations based in 89 countries providing an internet gateway that is the world's most comprehensive news and information resource, for organisations and people concerned with poverty, sustainability and human rights. The jobs section lists vacancies in organisations all over the world and also has links to other vacancy lists such as those issued by the UK Government's Department for International Development (DFID) and British NGOs for Development (BOND).

REACH

89 Albert Embankment, London SE1 7TP.

Tel: +44 (0) 20 75826543. Fax: +44 (0) 20 75822423.

E-mail: mail@reach-online.org.uk Website: www.volwork.org.uk

REACH recruits people of all ages and backgrounds with professional career experience to expenses-only positions with UK voluntary organisations which need their expertise.

do-it

Website: www.do-it.org.uk do-it is an online database of volunteer opportunities both in the UK and abroad.

charityjob

Website: www.charityjob.co.uk A website with current vacancies in UK charities, including jobs in fundraising, management and international development.

Guardian Unlimited jobs

Website: www.jobs.guardian.co.uk This website of current vacancies advertised in the Guardian newspaper has a search facility and a dedicated charities section.



Children doing their homework by electric light in Chalan, Peru.

If you would like information about Practical Action's work in general please contact:

Supporter Services Unit

Practical Action

The Schumacher Centre for Technology and Development

Bourton on Dunsmore

Rugby

Warwickshire CV23 9QZ, UK

Tel: +44 (0) 1926 634400

Fax: +44 (0) 1926 634401

E-mail: enquiries@practicalaction.org.uk

Website: www.practicalaction.org

Practical Action Consultants (PAC)

The Schumacher Centre for Technology and Development

Bourton on Dunsmore

Rugby

Warwickshire CV23 9QZ, UK

Tel: +44 (0) 1926 634403

Fax: +44 (0) 1926 634405

E-mail: consulting@practicalaction.org.uk

Website: www.practicalactionconsulting.org

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PRACTICAL ACTION
Technology challenging poverty

