

Furthermore, a study showed that among the six more wanted skills by employers, five may be developed through this kind of activities: communication, team work, decision taking, management and self-confidence.

Now, you see how attractive this alternative may be? Yet, don't forget that your main motivation should be your willingness to go and help local people. Give without expecting something back. That's solidarity!

Students who are interested – and we know there are – you have to beware of companies offering what we call “humanitarian tourism”. Observing that people are increasingly willing to help others, they are promoting expensive trips during which their customers can visit foreign countries and, at the same time, help the local populations. That's killing two birds with one stone. Actually, they have made of poor countries the modern amusement parks. Their only goal is to make money, at the cost of local people. So pay attention! We suggest you have a look at a non-profit-making association – you may have seen it during the business week – called International Voluntary Service. You will find more information about international solidarity and testimonials on their website.



## International Voluntary Service

The association offers projects in seventy different countries. And guess what! Rich or poor, you can help!

*“International Voluntary Service (IVS) is a Belgian pluralistic youth organization run by and for young people, by and for volunteers. Apolitical, with no religious affiliation, the IVS is open to all and everyone, without discrimination of nationality, race, philosophy, financial resources, education or sexual orientation. The association works mainly in the field of international volunteerism, but also in the areas of youth exchanges and intercultural exchanges between young Europeans and the rest of the world. The International Voluntary Service aims at encouraging the active participation of young people as citizens of the world through international solidarity and development cooperation, and promoting responsible, active and critical behaviors as well as solidarity. Volunteering projects are based on disinterested actions and are self-managed, accessible to everyone, non-commercial and mindful of respect and fairness. We stand by the associative world of the developing countries.”*

Website: [www.servicevolontaire.org](http://www.servicevolontaire.org).

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